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BRITISH MUSEUM

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXV. No. 662. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1919. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

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Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

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By Appointments to the late King

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There are plentiful supplies of

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The Richest in Cream

which is suitable for every purpose of fresh milk, and with this concession anyone who has not used Nestlé's Milk should at once try its infinite possibilities.

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Managing Director—S. MAYNARD.
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FREE BOOK

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JOHN BULL

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Come the three corners of the world in arms,
And we shall shock them.

Naught shall make us rue,
If Britain to itself do rest but true.

Vol. XXV. No. 633. Week ending Saturday, February 15th, 1919. Twopence.

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

The New House.

The new House of Commons is very much like all other new Houses—we have seen half a dozen of them. It is just like the reassembling of a public school after the holidays, the fresh boys being taken round and shown the ropes by the old ones, and being all curiosity and expectancy, mingled with a certain amount of nervousness.

"Mr. Speaker."

But at the first meeting, the outstanding figure was that of Mr. Lowther, now re-elected Speaker. Even before then, however, as he sat in a corner seat behind the Treasury Bench, there was a repose, a dignity and a distinction about him which can be explained in no other way than on the theory that, a highly-bred and intensely human man, he has, during his fifteen years' occupancy of the Chair, so absorbed the spirit and tradition of Parliament that he has become its living embodiment and soul.

No Danger.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald says the Peace delegates should be chosen, not by Governments, but by Parliaments. Well, thanks to Leicester, *he* is barred in either case.

How He Won.

According to the *Herald*, Mr. Lloyd George "won the election by an attempt to outdo Mr. Bottomley in Jingo vehemence." Was the word Indemnity a part of that "stunt"?

"No Englishman Need Apply."

Has it occurred to you as somewhat strange that there is not one Englishman amongst the delegates to the Peace Conference? Well may the Bishop of Hereford ask, "What is the cause of the failure of Englishmen to hold their own in public life?" We wonder!

Mr. Asquith.

We have been thinking over the question of Mr. Asquith's future position, and have come to the conclusion that when the time arrives for the election of Mr. Lowther's successor, *that* is the place for him. He would make an ideal Speaker—"always provided," as the lawyers say, that he comes back to the House.

The Doctors' Complaint.

Many letters reach us from medical men complaining that, owing to the impossibility of obtaining the small quantities of spirits prescribed by them for influenza patients, many lives are being lost. Yet there is abundance in bond. Come, Mr. Lloyd George, what about that promise of yours to relax the restrictions "at the earliest possible moment"?

Wanted, a Cromwell.

Several of our readers are urging us, now that we are back in the House, to follow up our writings and speeches by definite action. "We want a Cromwell," they say—well, our new seat *is* very near the mace!

"Sent For."

"When are *you* going to be sent for?" ask hundreds of correspondents. If they only knew more about the daily trouble with soldiers and others, they wouldn't ask that question. We are "sent for" nearly every day.

Exit "F. E."

So, like "Rufus"—now Lord Reading—"F. E." is no more, having been transformed into Lord Birkenhead. But why not Lord Smith? That would be the first step towards democratising the peerage.

Valera's Escape.

Would you like to know how the thing was worked? So should we. But we think we know the "key" to the mystery.

"It's an Ill Wind——"

Owing to travelling difficulties, many married men of our acquaintance stayed in town for the duration—of the Strikes.

A Smart Poster.

That was a smart poster of one of our contemporaries the other day—"Mr. Wilson to Visit America." It is also an excellent idea.

"In the House."

Under this heading we propose to give each week a synopsis of our work in Parliament. *This* week the page is necessarily more prophetic than retrospective.

Lord Milner.

Is the Prime Minister aware that South Africa is up in arms against the appointment of Lord Milner as Colonial Secretary—or hasn't he heard of it?

A Kut Medal.

Memory is short, and we are already forgetting some of our war heroes. Why not a special medal for they who suffered the tortures of those three years at Kut?

An Apt Quotation.

Here is a Shakespearean quotation for strikers—and for Peacemongers: "That England that was wont to conquer others Hath made a shameful conquest of herself."

Quite True.

Before he was deported, Socnus, the Bolshevist agitator, said the country was "at his back." Quite so, and now he has received the Order of the Boot.

Ireland.

Oh, dear us! Woe to the man who tries to solve the Irish problem! Yet, despite all criticism, we can see no other way out than that we have indicated.

Unkind.

We have before us the official programme of the recent Brotherhood meeting at the Albert Hall—and we find immediately following the item, "Address by the Rt. Hon H. H. Asquith, K.C.," a hymn, "God send us *men!*" And "Asquith, K.C.," was also cruel.

"Don't Kill the Goose."

Our recent article in the *Sunday Pictorial*, urging the workers "not to kill the goose which lays the golden eggs," has, we are happy to learn, had a splendid effect; and the question of its reproduction in pamphlet form is, we understand, under consideration.

Lord Northcliffe.

We are sorry at the breakdown in the health of Lord Northcliffe. He being always of a delicate and nervous temperament, we have not been unprepared for the news. Agree with him or not, as you may; he has been one of the wonders of the war.

Thanks to the Metro.

The grateful thanks of all Londoners are undoubtedly due to the working staff of the old Metropolitan Railway for its splendid sense of duty during the recent Tube strike. This is one of the things which should not be forgotten.

Those Irish Murders.

Why are no steps being taken against the assassins of those two Tipperary members of the R.I.C. who were foully murdered whilst in the execution of their duty? Do the authorities seriously suggest that the identity of the miscreants is unknown?

Soldiers and Racing.

How the love of the racehorse is ingrained in the nature of the British soldier! The *Times* tells us, quite truly, that "There is hardly a Division in France, Palestine, Mesopotamia, or in any of the other places where a British force has been employed which has not had its own race meeting." We hope our hon. friend, Mr. Lambert—the sole survivor of the "Old Gang"—will note this fact.

Shortage of Doctors.

There is a shortage of doctors, and the available few are mostly over-worked. At Manor Park inquests were held on two persons whose deaths occurred when medical assistance was unobtainable. But there are many medical men on hospital ships and battleships with very little to do, and the outlook, so far as naval "scraps" are concerned, promises them still more idleness. The Admiralty should get busy in releasing some of its surplus doctors.

Government Wasters.

Why are the expensive testing staffs in the various departments of the Ministry of Munitions still hard at work? The things they test all go to the scrap heap—as for example the now superseded oval containers for box respirators, which are most rigorously tested by highly-paid officials before being thrown away. Why? Nominally to see that contractors' accounts are debited for faulty articles. But that debit amounts merely to shillings!

Officially Starved.

A B3 man, aged 44, was called up last July, being much worried at the time. In October he was sent to Ireland, in a week he was in hospital, and from there he was removed to Eglington Asylum, Cork. His wife, who has two young children, visited him once, and saw his dinner—bread and margarine, coffee without sugar. Twice a week only is there a small allowance of meat, and there is porridge for breakfast. Parcels may be sent, we learn. But, surely, Government ought to feed its own.

Faking the Figures.

Up in Carlisle the Liquor Control Board is gathering figures as to the meals supplied in its various bars and canteens, evidently intending presently to gloss its profiteering in alcohol by a parade of imaginary good works. Managers are informed that their lists of "meals supplied" are to include meals not supplied but only cooked for customers who bring them. Further "snacks of bread and cheese, sandwiches, etc., and tea," are to be listed as full-blown meals. The result is condemned before it is published.

That Land Scheme.

If the Government are really in earnest over their scheme of land settlement for discharged soldiers, it might be as well to give the men some preliminary assurance that their claim will be attended to in fair rotation. For instance, a Shropshire reader, discharged from the Army, complains that although his own applications to the local authorities has been turned aside without a word of encouragement, a neighbour of his, never in khaki, has been "pitchforked into as much land as would feed ten head of cattle." It seems very unfair.

Lest We Forget!

A certain S. G. Rudler describes the three enemy guns exhibited in Aberystwyth as "a revolting sight." He wants them taken away and consigned to the nearest iron foundry. He says, "We need to forget the past." He is wrong, damnably wrong. We need, above all things, to remember—to remember what those guns stand for, what horror they threatened, and how our brave soldiers saved us from that fate. Forget? Forget the greatest hour of Britain's story? Forget? No! Let the guns stand ever there to say: "Thus did the Hun whom we trusted; and thus will he do if we trust him again."

Is it a Record?

What, one wonders, is the record for a "Roll of Honour" street? Dolphin Street, Attercliffe district of Sheffield, is justly proud of its own. There are only 48 houses in the street, and 56 of its men residents have served the Colours: 7 have been killed or died of wounds; 24 wounded; 23 unwounded; 2 yet to be added. Next, please!

A Boy's Hard Fate.

This is a rough case. A lad of 15 joined the Sea Scouts in 1916. After signalling practice at Rottingdean, the boys played leap-frog on their way back, and this lad fell, injuring wrist and knee. In the end, the injuries resulted in amputation at the wrist, and now there are fears for the leg. The boy has been told by the Pension Committee that he is entitled to no compensation because he was not on duty at the time of the accident. Yet it seems assuredly a case for a Compassionate Grant.

Flour at Bristol.

A correspondent makes serious allegations of flour wastage at Bristol. He says that in August last the local Landing Grain Committee unloaded and put into the timber yards of May and Hassell two barge loads of Manitoba flour and a cargo of bran—about 200 tons in all. The flour was exposed to all weathers, and our information is that it is "still lying there, soaking wet and getting very heated, and the smell is something awful. It is being eaten away by rats." If this is true, the Committee ought to be kicked out of their job.

Illegal Advertising.

It is unfortunate that the business cards of the Pictorial Art Company, 44, Crimbles Street, Leeds, give no particulars as to its constitution—an offence under the Business Names Act, making it difficult to saddle anyone with responsibility for the conduct of the agents of the Company, who are working the old photographic enlargement dodge in a very low-down way. We notice, moreover, that these enlargement-mongers claim to be "Artists under the Royal Patronage." Is there any excuse for this extravagant pretence?

Yard Stick Profiteering.

Stafford Northcote and Co. Ltd., made twelve times as much profit in 1918 as in 1913; Alliston and Co., Ltd., made a profit of £48,675 last year against a loss of £6,406 in 1913; Howell and Co., Ltd., made a profit of £96,176 in 1918 against £10,580 in 1913; J. F. and H. Roberts, Ltd., made a profit of £76,590 in 1918 against £18,531 in 1913—and this after making provision for 80 per cent. excess profits tax! What a game!

Gambling with Poison.

The 925 cases of condensed milk belonged to the Ministry of Food. They arrived at the port of Manchester; were examined, and were found to be in a dreadful condition. Some of the tins had swollen, some had burst, the hoops of the boxes had bulged to collapsing point. A detention order was served on the warehouses and the Ministry. Nevertheless, behind the back of the Port Medical Officer, the stuff was sold by direction of the Food Controller to a firm of toffee-makers! Luckily the firm was more particular than the Controller, picked out what tins were good, and used only them. But what an escape for the kiddies! And what a wicked gamble of the Controller.

Illness and Rations.

We trust the new Food Controller will take a more generously humane view of the sick rations recommended by doctors for their patients. There is admittedly a better supply of butter; more meat is available, and in these circumstances it is our strong view that invalids who can prove their needs through their doctor should not be regarded as if they were mostly hypochondriacs, rogues, and liars anxious to filch and fatten on other people's rations.

A Tragedy of Telegrams.

Here is a cruel record of delay in telegrams to France. On Dec. 28 a wire was despatched to a soldier informing him of his wife's dangerous illness. On Dec. 29 a second one announced her death, and a third message was sent on Dec. 30. The first was not delivered until Jan. 6, while the others have not been received at all. Before a word got to the soldier his wife was dead, and buried—a tragedy of telegrams sent at high cost, yet travelling slower and less safely than a letter.

Still They Dawdle.

We are now asked to believe that the extraordinary delay in winding up the affairs of the Middle Age Pension Society is due, not to the imprisonment of the rascal Taverner, but to the absence of the Secretary on war service. Whatever the reason, there has been unconscionable delay in straightening out this tangle and letting Taverner's dupes know exactly how much their misplaced confidence has cost them. Cannot the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies speed things up?

More Profit for Profiteers.

Any woman wanting linen for sheets or shirts could obtain it, announced the daily press, from the Aircraft Salvage Branch, York House, Kingsway. A hopeful housewife wrote straightway for particulars—only to learn that unbleached linen alone was on sale, and that no order for less than 1,500 yards would be considered. Such a quantity is absurd for household and family requirements, and the arrangement is another blow to the thrifty poor and another opening for speculation by the big profit-mongers.

Old Age Pensions at 65!

She is a poor old widow of Salisbury, 65 years of age. Since her husband died in 1904 she has kept going alone. Now she is in an almshouse with an allowance of 5s. a week, and she is very thankful—only things are so dear nowadays, and she is too ill to do a hard day's work. And so, will not those who are younger and stronger work to get the old age pension granted to poor old women of 65? Our correspondent may be assured that *we* will. It is monstrous that old age pensions should begin only when it is almost too late.

Room for the Hun!

A discharged man, W. G. Bull, who had served from 1914 to 1917 and is in poor health, was travelling from Paddington to Weybridge. At Westbury all the British citizens in his compartment were ordered out to make room for German prisoners. Bull, true to his name, refused to go. They threatened to put him out if he persisted—which he did, as the other carriages were full. Thereupon his luggage was humped out into the corridor. And there he stuck, while grinning Huns lolled on the seats and made insulting remarks in English. Bull said nothing. But he was thinking of when he met them out in France.

Home Again.

They don't know everything in the British Army; sometimes they dunnowhere they are. As Mr. Endean, a Tottenham tradesman, puts it on a postcard, "One of my men has been home at work three weeks. The Ministry of Labour wrote this morning, 27th Jan., asking if I would employ him when he left the Army, and I'd already been filling up papers for him ever since November!" Reminds one of little Bo-peep who lost her sheep and didn't know where to find 'em.

The End of a Story.

Our readers are familiar with the name of Hermann Vorwerk, a German interned in the Isle of Man, who—while his English wife, whom he had deserted, was in acute distress—was actually permitted to send money to a woman at Peebles with whom he had contracted an intimacy. We are glad to be able to state that Vorwerk has at last been sent home to Hunland, no one being better pleased than the English woman he had married and ill-treated. The case has served as a striking illustration of the stupidity of our officials in handling this rascally Hun.

"The Fine was Paid."

Considering what happens to postmen when they tamper with registered letters, it is a bit thick that Maurice Eric Woodbourne, a permanent clerk of 21 years, in the Petersfield Post Office, should have been given the option of a fine. He pleaded guilty to abstracting sums of money from letters on several occasions, and it was only his first offence in the sense that it was the first time he had been found out. Other Post Office servants had been blamed, but Woodbourne didn't care. But now he brings his father and a parson to prove what a perfect angel he had always been and how he had now fallen into temptation only because he owed £9 to a tailor. Yes, it's a bit thick; and a bit thin. The power of the purse again!

Thankless Service.

At the beginning of last year some of the crew of the torpedo-boat destroyer *Opossum* volunteered to attempt the salvage of a 10,000 ton merchant vessel, the *Admiral Cochrane*, torpedoed off Berry Head, and abandoned, it is said, in a sinking condition. The effort was entirely successful, thanks largely to the energy of an engineer from the *Opossum*, who managed to re-start the engines of the wrecked vessel, which was then able to reach Dartmouth under her own steam. The value of the ship and cargo cannot have been much less than £500,000, yet the volunteer salvage crew have not, so far, received a penny of reward for their invaluable services, undertaken at the risk of their lives.

A Fat Job.

A "handyman" advertised for by the Ashleigh Studio, 112, Royal Avenue, Belfast, "must be sober," and it looks as though he will have to be, and to go easy with his "grub" as well, since his wages are to be only 25s. a week. Perhaps the advertisers are looking out for a discharged soldier with a nice little pension. If this was the sort of thing against which the Belfast workmen were striking, we should be with them all the way.

Maimed and Helpless.

It is painful to have to protest once more against the lack of consideration—to call it by no harder name—shown toward maimed soldiers by thoughtless travellers. At every 'bus and tram terminus one may see the ex-fighter on his crutches, pushed away by women and by men of all classes, and forced, only too often, to walk on his one leg and his sticks the whole of his journey, because none will surrender him a seat. When travelling becomes easier it will be a blessing for him, but, meanwhile, to shoulder him aside is the essence of inhumanity.

The Paper Spoilers.

A few days after our remarks on the quantity of paper-spoiling done by the issue of the Weekly News Service by the Food Production Department, we read in one of the newspapers that the vacuous futilities who run this windy show had closed down and gone home to bye-bye. This seems to be premature, to say the least, for we are still receiving yards of screed on the farming outlook and the weather prospects, wherein we learn that it has been raining here and snowing there, and that in consequence "much of the land remains very wet." Lor bless our War Bonds! Would you believe that any Government on earth would have the face to dun us for funds to keep going such stunts as this?

Shallow at Reading.

In the same Court at Reading, and on succeeding days, though before different Magistrates, two cases were tried. One was that of a wounded soldier who assaulted a tram conductress and driver in a peculiarly brutal manner. In view of his war record, we should have said nothing if the man had been let off with a week or so; he was fined 10s. In the other case two women were convicted of wandering about and lodging in an outhouse in the local Y.M.C.A. Sports Grounds, without any visible means of subsistence. These two miserable waifs were sentenced to one month's hard labour apiece. The discrepancy is monstrous. Justice Shallow has always a bigger "down" on the homeless than on the violent.

The Old Men's Reward.

A number of old workers at Woolwich Arsenal are receiving the Order of Discharge—not because they are unfitted for work, but because youth must be served. After 50 years in the danger buildings, it does seem hard that a man should be turned adrift on a pension of 7s. 6d. a week. A lifetime in Government employ has earned more than that. The Arsenal might find them easier jobs at smaller wages.

Malay Wants to Know.

The Straits Settlements, Malay States and Borneo have subscribed over £600,000 to the war funds. Out of that close on £80,000 was for the Prince of Wales Fund. And British people in Malay are wanting to know what is being done with all that money. We can tell them that most of it lies idle; some of it goes in salaries to officials; a little is given out in doles—and some of those doles are loans which the soldier's wife or widow has to pay back. No wonder there comes a voice from Malay petitioning the Prince of Wales *himself* to look into the matter.

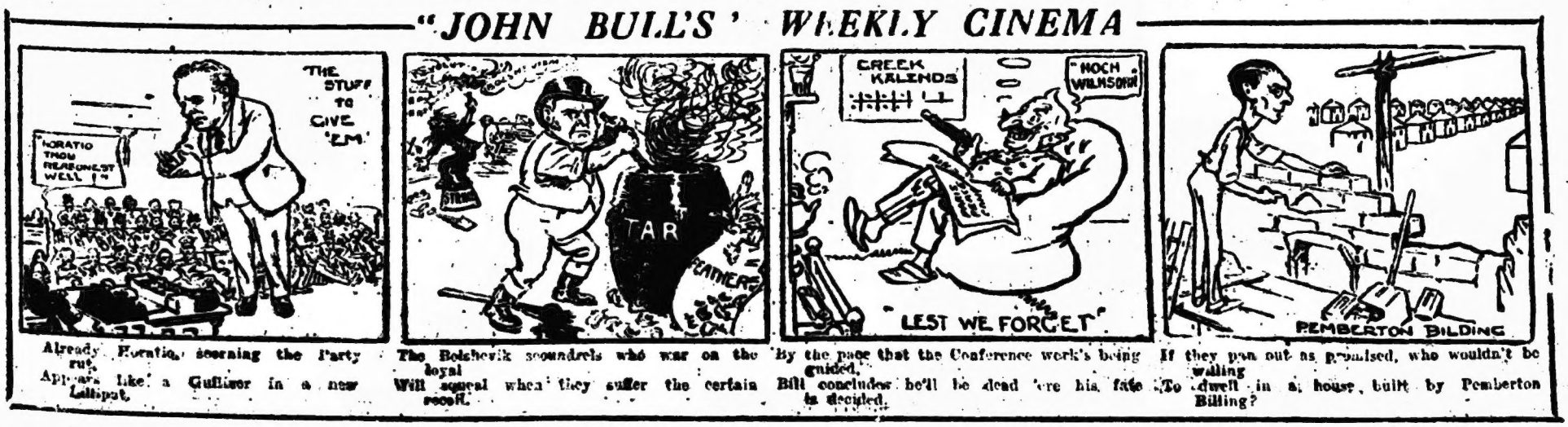
The Row in the Bakery.

Through by order of the Government all bread has to be twelve hours old before it is sold, it is often two days old or more by the time the public are permitted to try their teeth on it. The Government justify this twelve-hour regulation on grounds of economy. Instead of contributing to economy it results in waste, and waste, too, on a colossal scale. The bread delivered on Saturday is baked on Friday, and this is for Sunday's and Monday's consumption. The bread delivered on Monday is baked on Saturday, so that to comply with the Order the bread is frequently 48 or 50 hours old and is too much like hard boiled sandstone to eat, so is thrown away.

Dishonouring our Gallant Dead.

Private F. Morris had 14 years' continuous service with the Colours. For the past three years and more he fought, without any leave, in Egypt, the Dardanelles and Mesopotamia. He died at Southampton; and his body—a shroud on the front but naked at the back—was sent to his widow packed in sawdust, in an unvarnished box; and all expenses—as per official telegram—"to home and cemetery"—were borne by the widow. There were tears and holes in the skin—caused either by rat-bites or the nails of the box handles. The widow had also to pay 4s. 6d.—she had to pawn something to get the money—as expenses for the firing-party. And that is the shameful way we treat our dead heroes!

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA



Already Horatio, scorning the Party rut,
Appears like a Gulliver in a new Lilliput.

The Bolshevik scoundrels who war on the loyal
Will squeal when they suffer the certain recoil.

By the pace that the Conference work's being guided,
Bill concludes he'll be dead 'ere his fate is decided.

If they pan out as promised, who wouldn't be willing
To dwell in a house built by Pemberton Billing?

Candid Communications.

This space is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties and occasionally Nonentities.

To I. J. Morison, Esq., Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, S.W.

SIR,—I do not quite know who or what you are, but you seem to be in some measure responsible for the censorship of letters to persons abroad, and—well, I must try not to be rude. Let me simply record the fact that quite recently you kept an important business letter hanging about for seven weeks, and then invited the writer to say whether he would like it forwarded to its destination, or sent back home again. Really, my dear sir, this is sorry fooling. I trust it may soon be possible to have you painlessly removed. JOHN BULL.

To Sir Laurence N. Guillemard, K.C.B., Chairman, Board of Customs and Excise.

DEAR SIR LAURENCE,—It was very properly laid down in the Defence of the Realm Regulations that Customs and Excise officials should be required to take the Oath of Allegiance. Now, to my amazement, I find that this wholesome rule is to be abrogated, a General Order having been issued waiving the provisions of D.O.R.A. as regards a large class of new entrants to the Service. What on earth is the meaning of this strange procedure? Surely you have no use for people who are unwilling to swear allegiance to His Majesty? JOHN BULL.

To the Chairman, Town Improvement Committee, Newcastle.

DEAR SIR,—Yours is really a Committee of Sunday saints and hard-shell Pharisees, I take it, judging by their decision to close all public halls in the town against any form of Sunday entertainment whatever. It seems to me that any public hall should be authorised to open for any lawful purpose whatever on Sunday as on any other day, providing its entertainment was clean and wholesome. It is an outrage on British citizenship that a mere handful of men should assume and exercise so intolerant and intolerable a prerogative as you have enforced. JOHN BULL.

To Dr. J. A. Rawlings, Skelty, near Swansea.

IMPARTIAL SIR,—So nice of you to ask us, while we are remembering those who have fallen, not to forget those who have "endured the shame and loneliness of the convict-prison." Rest assured that we shall not forget them—or you. There will be monuments erected to our dead—and I would thankfully subscribe for a monument to you, and all Conchie-lovers of your complexion! JOHN BULL.

To John Marshall, Esq., and Dr. Bloomer, Long Eaton, Notts.

GENTLEMEN,—You are respectively a rich brewer and a highly successful medical practitioner. You are both members and high officials of a local Masonic Lodge, which the other evening promoted a "Victory Ball." Each of you hired a motor-car, driven by a discharged soldier—the man, in one case, being in anything but good health. Snow was falling heavily, and these men had to sit up till the early hours of morning—the ball not being over till 3 o'clock. You, Mr. Marshall, rewarded your driver with the noble sum of sixpence, and you, Dr. Bloomer—forsooth, the Charity Steward of the Lodge—with not even a "Thank you"! My fraternal greetings. JOHN BULL.

To Lt.-Col. J. Ritchie, J.P., Lord Mayor of Liverpool.

MY DEAR LORD MAYOR,—Apropos of the discussion on the question whether or not the Council should supply free top hats to ornament the Sanitary Inspectors at 16s. per top, I am sorry you did not inform the Chairman of the Health Committee that if he came to London I could put him on ten thousand top hats at half-a-crown apiece—enough to give style, quality, and finish to the whole Sanitary Department, not to mention the Chaplain of the Cemetery and the chief undertaker at the Workhouse, for generations to come. In London top hats are now used only for weddings, funerals, and sitting-on to give *éclat* to perorations in the House of Commons. JOHN BULL.

To Stanley Hayward, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Reading.

DEAR MR. MAYOR,—I am glad that, after all, your Council has decided not to erect those model dwellings in the vicinity of the Sewage Farm. It would have been sheer pigheadedness to persist in the scheme against the opposition of every sane element in your town; and after my recent criticism of the proposal, your Housing Committee will live to be proud and glad that they recognised stupidity when they saw it, even their own. Let us hope that when they next go land surveying they will keep their noses open. JOHN BULL.

To W. Vibart Dixon, Esq., Secretary, West Riding Local War Pensions Committee, Wakefield.

DEAR SIR,—Don't you feel powerful mean when you are compelled to write to tell a soldier's widow that, her allowance having been continued three weeks after her husband died, she now owes you £7 3s.? In the case I have in mind, the Normanton Branch of the Federation of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers dubbed round and paid up. But what base ingratitude on the part of the Government to treat "the soldier's legacy" like that! I hope you complain to the Ministry of Pensions. I do, and shall. JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. Edward Shortt, M.P., Home Secretary.

DEAR MR. SHORTT,—At the special request of the Chief Commissioner, pensioned policemen put on the blue again when the war began. They went to duty instead of to munitions. They are now off the beat once more at the same old pension rate, which at present values is worth about 10s. a week. I certainly think that extra years of work merit an extra bit of recompense. These oldsters stepped up lively when needed, and it is for you to see that they do not suffer by their public-spirited readiness. JOHN BULL.

MORE DEMOBILISATION BLUNDERS.

THE HARD CASE OF THE GIRL SOLDIERS.

Candour compels the admission that the various sections of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps—the girl soldiers of the King—have been none too well treated. What is to be the position of the W.A.A.C.s. and W.R.A.F.s returning to civil life? What gratuity are the girl soldiers to receive on demobilisation? What arrangements have been made to tide them over the period of difficulty and to facilitate their absorption into civil industry? Unfortunately, it is not easy to obtain satisfactory answers to these questions; the girls themselves are not at all clear as to their rights, and the War Office authorities seem unwilling to afford the necessary information. Meanwhile, many cases of hardship and injustice are coming to light. We hear of girls summarily discharged from the service, without a penny of gratuity, their uniforms taken from them, and no grant available for the purchase of civilian clothes. The demobilised women are eligible, we believe, for the Out-of-Work donation, but at the best this is a clumsy stop-gap, not at all acceptable to the high-spirited girls of whom the Women's Army Corps is chiefly composed. After the splendid services they have rendered at home and abroad, the very least the demobilised W.A.A.C.s and W.R.A.F.s should receive is a month's furlough with full pay, and a decent gratuity calculated according to length of service so as to provide for their maintenance and comfort while they are seeking civil employment. The fact that the women are unlikely to "make trouble" should not be a reason for ignoring their claims.

FOUR YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

HARSH TREATMENT OF A CLEVER CHILD.

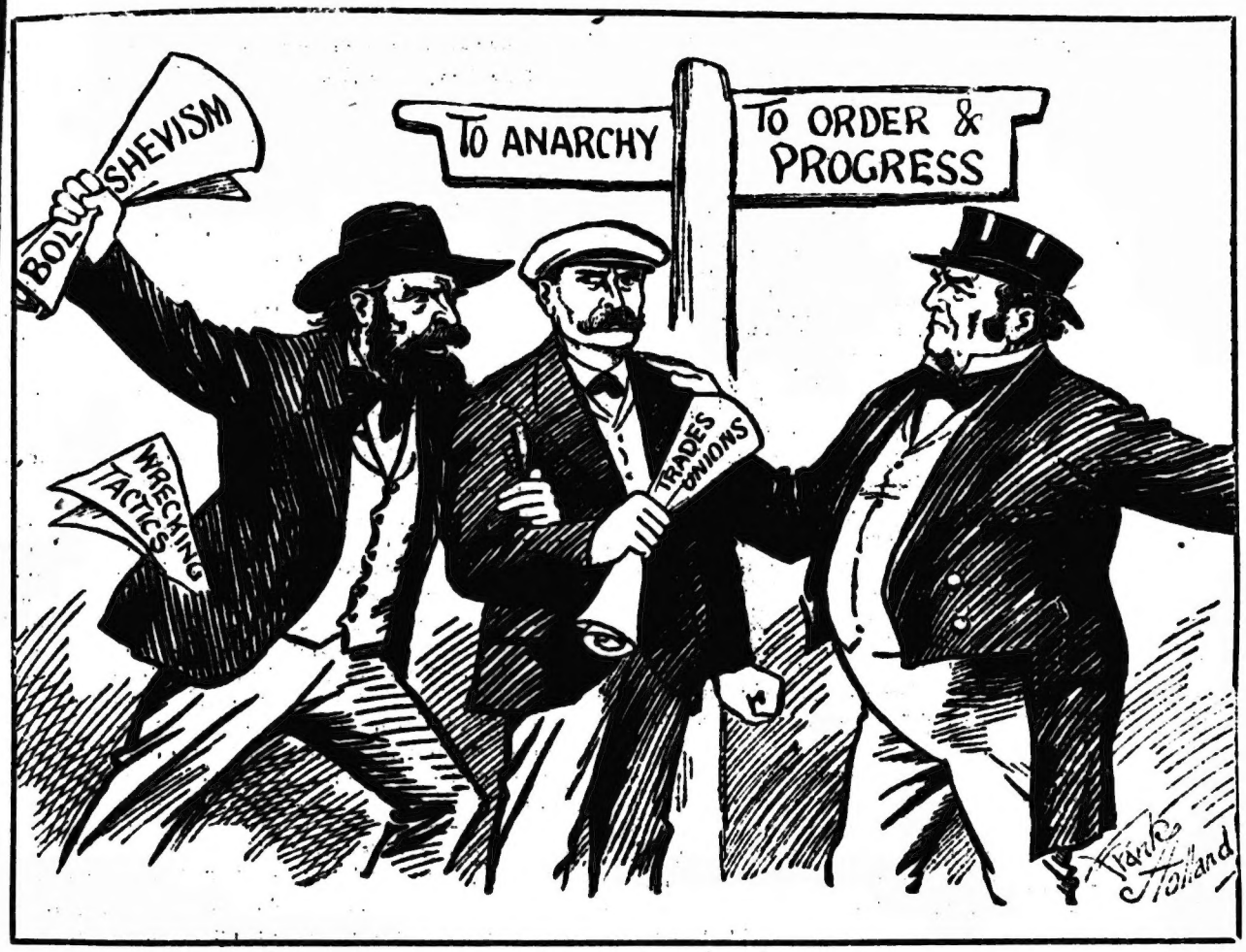
The case of little Janet White, a 14-year-old girl, the child of parents living in Knightsbridge, requires immediate rectification. Before she had reached the school-leaving age, she had attained a remarkable degree of proficiency; she was able to speak French and to make a creditable show at shorthand and typewriting. As a matter of fact, the youngster was given temporary employment at the American Consulate, which, for a girl of her parts, may have seemed a highly attractive opening. Even during this period her education was carefully continued by her mother, who is a fully certificated teacher. At any rate these were the circumstances in which Janet White, a few months before the leaving age, was kept away from school, the result being that the father was summoned to the Westminster Police Court and fined 10s. Almost as soon as the fine was paid, a second summons was issued, and this time the Magistrates acted in a manner altogether unwarranted. Their Order actually was that this bright little girl should be sent away to an Industrial School at Plymouth, there to herd with juvenile offenders of all descriptions, children drawn from the worst classes of society, until she is eighteen. It says much for the girl's character that even in these unfavourable circumstances she has contrived to "make good," having been promoted Head Dormitory Maid for good conduct; but it is as clear as daylight that the poor child ought never to have been subjected to this cruel indignity, and should be immediately set at liberty.

TUBERCULOUS CATTLE.

LAX CONTROL OF FOOD OFFICIALS.

Shortly before Christmas, the Food Officer at Bagshot reported these astounding facts to the Ministry of Food: "During the last few weeks," wrote the official, whose knowledge of the facts can hardly be gainsaid, "there have been no less than five in-calf beasts, and two tubercular beasts, sent from Farnham Market to a firm of butchers in this village. From enquiries I have made in the neighbourhood, I am satisfied that these are not exceptional occurrences, and that the state of affairs prevailing at Farnham requires immediate and thorough investigation." To his credit be it said that the writer of this letter, the Executive Officer to the Windlesham Food Committee, has done all in his power to bring about an inquiry, but, unfortunately, he has received very little assistance from the Area Live Stock Commissioner, who, to judge from his letters, has no lively sense of the duties belonging to his important and well-paid office. The blunt truth of the matter is that through mistakes of this kind the public are exposed to deadly peril, and the butchers to the risk of heavy loss. Having examined one of the tubercular carcases, the Windlesham Food Officer states that "its condition can only be described as horrible"; yet the Live Stock Commissioner seems not to be in the least perturbed over the matter and merely flings out, in the most casual manner possible, the suggestion that the butchers "can recover for the tuberculous beast allotted to them by applying to the Deputy Chairman of Auctioneers." But what of the risk of the diseased meat being sold?

TWO PATHS.



The Right and the Wrong.

FIFTEEN BOB FOR A HERO.

WOUNDED TOMMIES SHAME A WOULD-BE SWEATER

A bold placard to be seen on Tube walls and hoardings asks us not to "pity a disabled man—get him a job!" And then you'll probably be obliged to pity him. For example, you might have got a job for a disabled man at a pipe-maker's in Liverpool. This is how the advertisement ran in a local paper: "DISCHARGED young SOLDIER (one with foot off may suit) to assist in light trade; must be able to stand without crutches for an hour or two; hours 9 to 7; wages 15s.—Stewart, Pipe Maker, 18a, South John Street, Liverpool." One with a foot off may suit! How considerate! Stand without crutches for an hour or two! Dear us! Hours 9 to 7! Oh, Lor! Wages fifteen bob—Help! We do not think it necessary to say what were our feelings when we read this advertisement. It had precisely the same effect on most of those who read it; especially on the inmates of the St. James' Military Hospital. They boiled till they bubbled over. They determined that Stewart should really understand what he had done and what he was up against. They went in procession, over 100 strong, to Stewart's shop, wheeling a crippled hero, Private Leon (of the London Scots), who answered the advertisement's wants in every respect—except one: he wasn't going for fifteen bob. A large board at the head of the detachment declared their purpose. And Stewart looked forth and beheld the company and was afraid. So when Corporal Anten, of the A.I.F., entered the shop and wanted to know what was what, Stewart piped small, and said he had already written to JOHN BULL to put things straight. (That letter has not come to hand.) He said the advertisement was much misunderstood. It was really an offer of a future partnership. But if he had said so, he wouldn't have been able to get into his shop for the applicants. The excuse is neat, but not gaudy—and it won't wash. As we have so often said, the discharged man is worthy of his hire—and the sooner employers recognise it, the better.

FROM PILLAR TO POST.

MAKING SHUTTLECOCKS OF INJURED SOLDIERS.

Why should soldiers be shuttlecocked from one hospital to another until they die? Though in one instance the man would have died whatever the treatment, the scandal is none the less for that. As the Coroner said, we can imagine how many lives might be thrown away by what he called the "stupidity" of these regulations. The particular case was of a soldier, Pte. C. H. Wedgwood, who jumped from a runaway trap and fell on his back. He was taken first of all to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. The authorities there state that the House Surgeon thought the injured man was suffering from a fractured leg—as a matter of fact, there was a fracture at the base of his skull—and that this was the reason why Wedgwood was sent off to a military hospital—at the Higher Barracks. But other evidence is that the man was refused admission merely because he was a soldier. From the Higher Barracks Wedgwood was sent to No. 3 Military Hospital, and there he died. That is the one case! This is the other: A soldier—Sergt.-Major Hatton—who had been wounded, and was afterwards prisoner of war in Germany, was sent to work, on his return to Blighty, in Ebbw Vale Colliery. He was very lame—one leg being shorter than the other. He had, of course, a small pension. Well, Hatton broke down in his work, and the Colliery Company sent him to a hospital towards whose funds they contributed. There he was told they could not have him, as he did not come direct from "the field." Thence he was sent to the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, Mon., and was put to bed; but as soon as the Medical Superintendent there found Hatton was a pensioner he was chucked out. Finally he found a refuge in the Ebbw Vale Hospital, and there his leg was amputated, and he died. No wonder a member of the Ebbw Vale Pensions Committee said that Hatton could not have been worse treated while he was in Germany. Well, this sort of thing has got to stop—right away.

TWISTING THE LION'S TAIL!

BRITISH RIGHTS AND SPANISH INSOLENCE

Fuller information is now to hand in regard to the two officers of a British transport imprisoned without trial by the Spanish authorities at Bilbao for shooting in the leg a mutineer who was trying to get away with booty from the ship. They have languished in a Spanish gaol—the very name is a byword for filth and discomfort—for more than four months. A week or two ago the wife of one of the prisoners received a feeble communication from the British Consul, saying he "could not yet tell when the case will be heard" and was "doing all he could to hurry it on." The only ray of comfort discernible is a statement by the owners of the transport that the matter is now in the hands of the Foreign Office, and that the cause of the prisoners has been taken up by the British Ambassador at Madrid. It is to be hoped that his Excellency may find a sharp method of recalling the Spanish Authorities to a proper sense of the respect due to British subjects.

CRUELTY TO CALVES AND COWS.

INDEFENSIBLE PRACTICE IN CATTLE MARKETS.

Our attention is drawn to a cruelty practised on cows with calves, as seen in the cattle markets of Dorset and the neighbouring counties. When a cow and a calf are to be sold, the calf is muzzled so that it cannot nourish itself. Though not being relieved of her milk, the cow's udder becomes distended and inflamed. In this condition she has to walk to market, perhaps a dozen miles distant, and sometimes the calf has to walk too, notwithstanding that it is illegal to walk a calf so far. The climax of the cruelty is to starve the calf from any time up to 24 hours, or even longer, the cow all the time being anxious to get rid of her milk. Cow and calf are often sent to the market field overnight, and it is a most pitiable sight to see these exhausted calves trying to get at the teats of the anxious mother, whose anxiety and torment are so great that at last she kicks the calf away from her. And so it continues from the afternoon of one day until the middle of the next, when they go through the auction. The object is to give the cow a big udder and make a poor milker look like a good one. It is, of course, a deception which does not beguile—the incredible thing being that the only parties who are deceived are the cruel farmers who deceive themselves.

"TO HIM THAT HATH."

NO SOLDIERS WANTED FOR WELSH APPOINTMENT.

Recently the Town Clerkship of Denbigh fell vacant. Among the applicants was a young officer, one who in the very first month of the war threw up his profession to join the Army—serving with high distinction in France, where he was wounded, taken prisoner, and decorated with the M.C. Another candidate for the position was a local solicitor, with an equally meritorious, if less distinguished, record of Army service. If there is room for surprise, it is not that there were only two soldier applicants, but that there were any at all—for the whole business had been rushed through in such a way as to give occasion for plain speaking. The fortunate applicant was Mr. Robert Davies, a partner in a local firm of lawyers, with several cushy jobs already in hand—Coroner for West Denbighshire, and Clerk to the Borough Justices. "Are we going," asked an indignant Councillor, "to throw more public offices at him and leave a young man who has fought for us and been a prisoner of war without any at all?" As a matter of fact, this was just what the Council *were* going to do. To their credit be it said that six Councillors out of the fifteen voting preferred the claim of a man who had served his King and country. No doubt the nine had their reasons, which on some future occasion they may perhaps be invited to state.

THE TRANSPORT SCANDAL.

"TREATING GALLANT CANADIAN SOLDIERS WORSE THAN DOGS."

By Charles Palmer (*Assistant Editor*).

If you happen to be a Government official you can be guilty of any sin of omission or commission with the complete assurance that your sin will never be permitted to find you out. Take these transport scandals. As long ago as the Autumn of 1917 I told the story of the abominable conditions which caused many deaths on the voyage of the *Empress of Britain* from Durban to Bombay. But who cared? Over 4,000 men were, to quote one of the sufferers, "packed like sardines and the heat was awful." Illness was rampant; there were twelve deaths on board; everyone was verminous. The food was awful, men fell sick and medicine ran short—and all this in the third year of war.

What happened to the *Empress of Britain* is wrapped in official silence. If any inquiry was held it was kept secret; if any official was found to be responsible for the sickness and suffering and the deaths, you may bet your life he was "whitewashed and decorated," if not promoted. In the winter of 1917 John Bull called attention to the scandalous condition of another of the transports from Durban, the *Coronia* of the Cunard Line, described by one of the unhappy victims as "the filthiest, dirtiest and lousiest ship I ever saw." Definite charges were made of bad food, stinking and rancid meat, maggoty stew, sour bread in which vermin was often baked, and uneatable margarine. But the victims were only British soldiers and no one troubled or cared. Then in the spring of 1918 we exposed the condition of things on some of the ships carrying Canadians back to the land they had left to fight for the old country. Our grave allegations were based upon the actual evidence given on oath at a special Court of Inquiry held at Ottawa. The food was "rotten and not fit for dogs"; the wounded were left without proper treatment and death resulted. Was anyone made to suffer? We doubt it. When questions about the revelations in John Bull were addressed to the Admiralty in the House of Commons, Dr. Macnamara professed complete ignorance. This was the smug and complacent answer of the Admiralty representative:—

> We have no information as to the allegations. No complaints have been received from the Officer Commanding troops on board. There is no reason to think (note that word "think") that supervision of troopships is other than adequate, but if I am told to what ships the allegations refer the matter shall certainly be enquired into.

It will be noticed that although the Canadian Government had set up a special Committee, and while John Bull of course knew all about it, the official "duds" at the Admiralty and in the House of Commons knew nothing. All they could do was to think, and thinking left on their vacuous mind the impression that all was well. But the innocent Macnamara and the complacent officials who furnished him with that ignorant if not lying answer might have taken warning. Yet the crime of shameful neglect and of repellent incompetence not only goes unpunished, it actually continues. Canada is ringing with indignation at the revelations of the conditions on board another troopship—this time the *Northland*. Those who had played their splendid part in the Great Adventure—men who had been wounded, others suffering from shell-shock—were herded like cattle on that ship. To use some of their own mild epithets, the conditions were "vile," "evil-smelling" "filthy," "disgusting." For the first two days of the voyage, while officers paraded on the top deck enjoying the Atlantic breezes, the unhappy members of the rank and file were huddled together "like dogs" in the hold of the ship. When the men kicked, conditions were slightly improved. But the vessel was verminous, there was only one bath-room for 1,000 men, they couldn't get fresh water for washing, the food was "rotten." According to one of the victims, "the stewards were selling food all during the voyage, and we had to buy from them or starve." In the hospital the conditions were worse even than in the men's quarters. "These sections were not fit for cattle, never mind human beings"—that is a remark of one of the stewards. It will surprise no one to learn that before the official inspection of the *Northland*, prior to sailing from the Old Country, orders were given for clean table cloths and brand new knives and forks to be placed upon the tables. "After the committee" had left, all these were whipped away, and during the voyage the soldiers had to use their own knives and forks and plates." When these unhappy and neglected men reached Halifax, N.S., "through no fault of their own, they were in a filthy condition."

Who is responsible for this shocking scandal? No doubt when the matter is raised in the House of Commons as it *will* be raised, we shall see Dr. Macnamara again attempting to shelve the subject, and again pleading complete ignorance. Of course he will never have heard of the *Northland*. When men have done their bit and are going home they are useless—that is the official view. Dr. Macnamara will still have "no reason to think that the supervision of troopships is other than adequate," and he will loll back in Ministerial snugness on the Treasury Bench while our soldiers from the homeland and the Dominions are being herded like cattle and treated like swine. So far as Canada is concerned, it is a poor return for her splendid patriotism and unmatched gallantry to see a continuance of these troopship scandals. Thousands more brave fellows have yet to return to "the Lady of the Snows," and it is time there was the assurance that that voyage home shall be one of happy memories, and not leave a legacy of shocking physical discomfort and often of real suffering.

IN THE HOUSE.

MY WORK AT WESTMINSTER—OUR PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU.

As already announced, I was one of the first arrivals at the House on the morning of February 4th, when Members were called together for the election of the Speaker, and again on the morning of the 11th, when it met for the commencement of regular business. At the suggestion of the Speaker, I decided to relinquish my old seat—the first on the left below the gangway from the entrance—giving it up in favour of Major Cohen, the legless Member for Liverpool. I have, however, secured an excellent position in the first seat below the gangway, immediately facing Ministers.

Many Members approached me with a request that I would join in the congratulations to Mr. Lowther, on behalf of the unofficial section of the House, but I have decided to remain silent until the Debate on the Address, when I shall move an amendment dealing either with the terms of the Peace Treaty—should the form of the King's Speech render such an amendment admissible—or with the practical disfranchisement of our fighting forces during the recent Election. In the latter event I shall probably urge the importance of another appeal to the country before the terms of the Peace Treaty are finally ratified, and when the demobilised men will have an opportunity of recording their votes.

Heckling Ministers.

Meanwhile, I have lost no time in giving notice of questions to Ministers — amongst various matters upon which they are to be interrogated being the delay in the removal of the Enemy Princes from the Peerage; the action of the wife of the British Minister at the Hague in being a member of the reception committee of the ex-Kaiser on his arrival in Holland; the scandal surrounding the death of the girl-mother, Ellen Sullivan, while on remand and the disgraceful condition of the so-called Infirmary in Holloway Gaol; the prohibition of unofficial strikes; income-tax upon soldiers' pensions and gratuities, and upon the combined incomes of husband and wife; the practical abandonment of demobilised women war-workers; the appointment of a Public Defender and a Minister of Justice; the revision of our consular system; the inequalities in pay of Government staffs, and a variety of other matters.

Our Parliamentary Bureau.

I continue to receive an enormous number of letters calling attention to grievances and scandals requiring to be voiced in Parliament, and our readers may rest assured that none of these matters will be overlooked. Numerous cases have been brought to my notice during the past week, including complaints from many men shortly returning to civil life that, while they have been fighting the Hun, their businesses have gone to the dogs—the Government should undoubtedly give ample assistance in these cases, setting up an organisation similar to the existing Civil Liabilities Scheme. A number of letters have also reached me from Old Age Pensioners requesting me to do my utmost, not only to lower the age-limit to sixty-five, but to increase the amount of pension beyond the additional meagre dole already granted. Such correspondents have my hearty sympathy; I am determined to do everything in my power on their behalf.

I am naturally giving earnest attention to the great national problems that confront us, on the right solution of which depends the health and welfare of the whole community, also to many grave abuses that result in injustice to individuals, of which glaring examples are constantly brought to light in these pages—including legal tyrannies that deprive a man of the harvest of his toil; the mal-administration of the Poor Law by modern Bumbles, whereby the distress of the poorest is increased rather than alleviated, and the shameless profiteering in the necessaries of life, which, together with the maintenance of the vexatious liquor restrictions, will also receive my earnest attention.

H. B.

(All communications for this Department should be addressed to "The Parliamentary Bureau, John Bull Office, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.")

NIGGARDLY ALMS.

CHARITY THAT TRADES ON OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Some years ago a Hull philanthropist by the name of Lee left a large sum of money on trust for the establishment of Homes of Rest for the Aged Poor. They comprise a number of self-contained flats for married couples or single beneficiaries. The Trustees, however, have always kept their eyes open for old age pensioners, and this for a rather shabby reason. As part of the Lee bounty, there is an allowance of 15s. weekly for married couples and 10s. for the unmarried; but if an inmate is qualified for an Old Age Pension, the amount of the pension is deducted from the grant payable by the Trustees. It will easily be understood that, with all their food to buy and prices on a war footing, the poor old folks have been none too well off, and when the Government, under the pressure of public opinion, raised the Old Age Pensioner's dole from 5s. to 7s. 6d., some of them imagined they might be allowed the benefit of the additional half-crown. The Trustees, however, had no such generous intentions, and the weekly allowances were promptly reduced by the exact amount of the pension increase. The position is, therefore, that Old Age Pensioners in the Lee's Rest Houses are now receiving 2s. 6d weekly from the Lee Fund, or in the case of married couples both of whom are in receipt of the State pension the Trustees contribute nothing at all. One inmate, bolder than the rest, seems to have conceived the idea of approaching one of the local M.P.s on the matter, a suggestion which drew from the Secretary the remark—not, we hope, to be construed as a threat—that it was "highly undesirable that any inmate of Lee's Rest Houses should communicate with Members of Parliament." For our part, we are inclined to think that a little extra publicity would do good.

A DOWNY BIRD.

INTEREST IN ADVANCE BUT CASH LACKING.

Mr. A. Wallace, moneylender, of Holmdene, Walmsley Road, Broadstairs, Kent, is a gentleman with bright ideas. He is not, of course, an "ordinary moneylender"; all the ordinary moneylenders died natural deaths before the present tribe started business. A small business man was seeking a little accommodation, a matter of £200. With his usual generosity, Mr. Wallace was willing to advance the money on note of hand at 8 per cent. per annum. First of all, though, there was a charge of £2 2s. for "necessary expenses," calculated on some hidden principle that we will not stay to probe. As soon as this sum had been paid, the obliging money-merchant shifted his ground. Finding that the applicant had previously registered a Bill of Sale for £50, Mr. Wallace now demanded security for the prospective loan, at the same time intimating that the first year's interest at 8 per cent., £16, would be payable in full before the borrower received a penny of the advance. If the negotiations had broken down at this point, as in many cases they no doubt would have done, the moneylender would have been £2 2s. in pocket, and none the worse for his outing; but as it happened, the borrower was in earnest, and the £16 was paid. It was formally acknowledged on December 19th last, but on the last day of the year the trustful client was still without the £200, the excuse being that "our Mr. Wallace" had "been away sick," and consequently unable to attend to business. We trust this passing indisposition has not interfered with Mr. Wallace's attendance at St. Peter's Church, Broadstairs, where he is, as we understand, a member of the choir, if not, indeed, a pillar of the sanctuary. Seriously, however, his first duty on returning to business will be to clear up the transaction we have mentioned, which in its unfinished state has a nasty appearance. Till then, if he must sing, it should be small.

Freemans Custard with STEWED RHUBARB

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FIII.

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

THE STRIKER.

Mornin' . . . *Can I give you a quick 'air cut?* I dessay I ain't adopted the ca' canny policy as yet. As a barber I run on a three-speed gear—the first for or'nary customers, wot take things easy; the second for gents in a 'urry, trains to catch (if runnin'), wives to meet, an' cetra; an' the top speed for them wot's in a dooce of a n'urry, sich as bridegrooms late for a weddin' and gents anxious to git a drink before the 'ouses close at 'arf-parst two. Wot might be *yore* category? . . . Oh, you're *a member of a strikers' delegation with an appointment at the Board of Trade.* Oh; I see. Yes, yes. H'm! That reminds me. *I* intended to come out on strike this mornin'. Sorry to inconvenience you an' all that, but *I* shall 'ave to down tools. . . . Eh? *I've on'y trimmed one side of yore 'ead?* I know that. It's *hobvious*. You'll probably be reminded of it as you go up the street. . . . Eh? *You insist on me finishin' me job?* I'm surprised at chew. You, a strike official, to tork to me like thet! Why, I ought to 'ave yore sympathy. 'Aven't I adopted the policy of the "lightnin' strike," wot 'is calculated to put as many innercent and 'elpless people to the greatest possible inconvenience without warnin'? W'y, you ought to 'ang round me neck an' kiss me on both cheeks, in the approved fashion of the stinkin' Russian Bolshies! . . . *Makin' game of you*, am I? Bah! I've got too much contemp' for yore sort to make game of you. You kin go. I wash me 'ands of you. Go an' join yer brother delegates an' do yore best to blackmail the Guv'ment an' the innercent, 'ard-workin', law-abidin' general public. Bung orf! . . . Wot! *You'll sue me for damages?* Wot for? . . . *Makin' you a objeck of ridicule?* Wish you was no worse than thet. But I'll tell you wot you are, me man—you're a objeck of loathin' in the estimation of all decent-minded people. Good mornin', sir. (*To equipment-laden "Tommy," obviously returned from the front.*) I'm glad you've 'appened to step in. P'raps you don't mind 'elpin' me to git rid of this 'ere person, wots obstructin' me shop. 'E won't give you much trouble. 'E ain't wotcher ma' call a man—e's a strike delegate. You know, one o' them vermin wot lives on the fat o' the land in safety an' lets others fight for 'im. 'E ses 'e's goin' to sue me fur damages becos w'en I'd cut the 'air on one side of 'is 'ead it suddenly occurred to me to come out on strike before me job was done. Damages! Wot 'e's done on other people 'e don't like 'avin' done on 'isself. Wot about w'en the railways stopped runnin' an' stranded thousands of City workers, wot 'ad to walk 'ome in the dark through bitter cold snow—young gals an' delicate wimmin', some o' wot's dead of pneumonium by now, I dessay. Wot about damages for *that* bit o' dirty work? (*Returned soldier speaks emphatically and fluently.*) Did you 'ear thet, Mr. Bolshevic Esquire? Did you 'ear wot misery an' trouble yore senseless railway strike caused the brave soljer? Did you 'ear 'ow 'e'd bin five days travellin' from Cologn, an' couldn't git 'ome to see 'is sick mother w'en 'e got to London an' found the trains 'ad stopped runnin'? This is one of the brave lads wots fought an' bled (see 'is wound stripes?) to keep yore miserable carcase safe, an' thet's 'ow you show yore gratichewed! Come, git out! . . . No, don't 'it 'im, me lad. 'E ain't worth it. 'E'll git it in the neck proper one o' these days w'en 'is chickens come 'ome to roost. Don't 'it 'im. You've kep' yore 'ands clean up to now, I reckon. Let 'im go an' show 'is 'alf-cropped 'ead for the amusement of the public. Take this chair . . . No, I'm not on strike now. It's settled. The grievance is gorn, dam' 'im! Wot kin I do for you? . . . *'Air-cut, shave, an' shampoo?* Right-o'! Well, wot do you think of Germany?

TELL US THE T

Wanted, a Home Peace Conference—The Troub

By THE ED

NOW that we have the Prime Minister back in town I want to beg him to take the opportunity of enlightening us, through Parliament, as to how we stand in the matter not only of the Peace Conference, but of other problems which are very much disturbing the public mind. By the time these lines are read he will probably have intervened in the Debate on the Address, and I find it difficult to believe the inspired statement that he will confine himself to the Labour situation. At any rate, that will not do for me. No doubt the inexperienced parliamentarians who at present occupy the Front Opposition Bench will fall into the trap, and so shape their procedure as to enable the wily little Welshman to avoid all awkward questions. I will not, however, believe that it will be possible for him to escape the obligation of affording the House of Commons some enlightenment respecting the mystery which at present shrouds the proceedings of the Peace Conference in Paris; and also of clearing away, if he can, the clouds of rumour and ill-report which are to-day filling the air in regard to unrest, not only of the ordinary working classes, but the soldiers, the sailors, and the demobilised men and women. I suppose we shall have to wait for the King's Speech before we can put down any amendments for the purpose of forcing the hand of the Government in this respect, but Mr. Lloyd George must be living in a fools' paradise if he does not know that the gravest apprehension and suspicion prevail in reference to the hole-and-corner discussion of terms of Peace.

Tell Us the Truth!

Various circumstantial, and so far uncontradicted, reports have come to hand—all pointing to the fact that Mr. Wilson is dominating the Peace Conference with his fantastic ideals. We are told, for instance, that the future of the German Colonies is to be left to the decision of the unborn League of Nations—irrespective, apparently, of the sentiments of those British Dominions to whose shores many of these Colonies are contiguous. Then, as regards the question of Indemnity for the cost of the War, the whole thing has gradually disappeared into the background, and all we hear about is Reparation—and even that only for damage done through non-military causes. And all the time we have ringing in our ears the appeal of the Prime Minister and his Press to the electors to "Vote for the Man who won the War," and to "Make Germany pay." I assure my Rt. hon. friend that the new House of Commons is in no mood for fooling over these matters. Almost every one of his official supporters is pledged to the teeth to Indemnities and Punishment—whilst I do not think there is a Unionist Member of the House who would for a moment condone any tampering with the legitimate claims and sentiments of our Colonies and Dominions. At any rate, some of us mean to force this matter to the test; and it would be a wise thing for the Prime Minister at the earliest opportunity to take the nation into his confidence, tell us of his difficulties—if any—and ask us to send him back to Paris with an indisputable Mandate, confirming the verdict of the country so far as it was ascertained at the polls in the recent election. We can have no more of this nonsense about "freedom of the seas," and of "self-determination" on the part of native populations of German West Africa and other uncivilised regions. And we should like to know exactly what is the attitude of the Allies towards the German Government at the present time. Do they propose to permit, unrebuked, the insolent threats of the enemy to "refuse to take any part in Peace negotiations"? What earthly right have they to be represented at the Conference at all? The Allies are there to dictate, and not to discuss, the Terms of Peace. And why on earth have we a special Commission sitting to inquire into Germany's *capacity* to pay? We expect judgment to be signed against her for the full cost of the War—and we will deal with her capacity to pay the amount later on. And when President Wilson is suggesting that we hand over the Caroline Islands to Japan, we wish him to be reminded that the Philippines and other Islands at present in the possession of America, are much nearer our Eastern Ally. And we'll have no nonsense about Gibraltar and other vital naval bases of the British Empire. As one discharged soldier writes me: "Rather than this, we will start the job all over again." That, I believe, is the feeling of Tommy throughout the world. I therefore want the Prime Minister to know his real strength—and then he will not be overawed by American "idealism"—which, if you want my candid opinion, is not very distantly related to Yankee bluff. If he is handicapped by his present pro-German surroundings, let him shed them without delay and listen to the voice of men like Mr. Hughes and M. Clemenceau, and others who realise that, having won a ghastly and costly war, we are out for the legitimate spoils of victory before we direct our thoughts to the hastening of the Millennium. On the question of Indemnities, I would like the Prime Minister to run through some of the letters I receive; and I would commend to his careful consideration this communication from a Sussex reader:—

> No doubt you saw the announcement that the Peace negotiators are dropping the question of making Germany pay any indemnity beyond *wilful damage*. As you gingered up the Prime Minister to pledging himself to make Germany pay for the cost of the war, the public will look to you to see that he does not play false with the nation at the Peace Conference. It would very much look as if the *Just* Peace simply meant one by which Germany should be mulcted in the minimum possible. This war as far as Germany was concerned was a crime from its inception till its end, and the Paris people bear that out by setting up a Commission to find out the *guilty authors*. Now they apparently make a difference between *wilful* damage and *legitimate warfare* damage, the Germans would have a perfect right to say that as we recognise the *legitimacy* of a great deal of their destruction we cannot go back and declare the war a criminal affair—for there can be no possibility of recognising a *legitimate* manner of accomplishing or carrying out a *crime*. Therefore the war was not a crime and we cannot punish the authors of it as criminals; thus we are a lot of damned hypocrites. An American friend writing to me about Wilson's "lofty idealism" says it is "top-lofty," and that is a polite way of putting it. I hope, if really the news is true about the "No indemnity" that you will rouse up the nation to such an extent that Mr. Lloyd George will be made to remember that the the pledge which won him the election has to be kept, or else he he must come back and seek another "mandate" What a beginning, too, for a League of Nations which can't settle the Russian business except by terms more or less recognising Anarchy and bloody tyranny!

And then as regards the surrendering of any strategical positions to the control of the League of Nations, I suppose we shall be told that any such rumour is premature and unauthorised. I agree, however, with many of my correspondents, that these mysterious newspaper paragraphs are inspired feelers to test public opinion. Personally, I think that opinion is well exemplified in a letter written by "An Old R.E." who was stationed at Gibraltar forty years ago, and who says: "Ceuta appears to be the cabbage-patch selected to tempt us with. A splendid bargain, forsooth! A Spanish convict settlement on the Moorish coast! We are told that 'Gib.' is not of the same strategical importance as it used to be. Perhaps that is why Spain wants it! . . . . If the question were put to the Spaniards who live on the Rock, they would be unanimous in wishing to remain under British rule." I really think I must ask Mr. Lloyd George to spend an hour a week going over my letter bag!

Trouble with the Soldiers.

And here, too, is a matter upon which the country will demand enlightenment. What *is* the use of blinking the truth? It is the old story of the loss of the *Audacious*, early in the war, all over again. Everybody knew the facts—whilst the Government lived in a dug-out of official reticence. By the way, mention of the *Audacious* recalls to our mind the Prime Minister's advice, given to the workers a year ago, to make "audacity" their motto after the war—so he cannot very well blame them for the "audacity" of some of the recent strikes. But for the moment, a word about the trouble with the soldiers. Does Mr. Lloyd George seriously think that what is happening in France is unknown over here? Is he under the impression that men on leave have neither eyes nor tongues? At home, too, things are not much better. Scarcely a day passes without

TRUTH, [illegible]

with the Soldiers.—The Only Cure for Strikes.

EDITOR.

my being telegraphed for to go to some camp or the other to quell incipient mutiny; whilst the other day an urgent message reached me from a thousand soldiers stranded at Victoria Station and in a somewhat ugly mood; it is no exaggeration to say that but for my intervention there would have been grave trouble. As it is, we have the spectacle of hundreds of men marched to the station under a guard with fixed bayonets *en route* for France. Then, in the capacity of mouthpiece of various ex-soldiers' societies and associations, I am in constant touch with the War Office—and I have before me a letter from Mr. Churchill, from which I am happy to gather that he has availed himself of many of my suggestions in connection with demobilisation. And what is true with the Army, applies with almost equal force to the Navy. To put it mildly, there is the gravest unrest on the lower decks, and what the authorities would doubtless call "regrettable incidents" are of daily occurence. How far the Prime Minister has been kept informed of these things during his absence in Paris I cannot, of course, say, but he must know them by this time, and I call upon him for a candid recognition of the situation, and a statesmanlike plan of dealing with it. We can no longer treat the Army as a soulless automaton—a military caste apart from the general community—as was the case before the war. That army for all practical purposes is no more. What we have now is a citizen force, composed of civilians who flew to, or were forced into joining, the Colours in the hour of national emergency, on the faith of the most solemn and specific promises of fair and generous recognition of their services by the State. And it is not their fault that they had been led to believe that the war is over. Had the Armistice consisted of nothing but purely military conditions, none of this misunderstanding and trouble would have arisen. As it is, the men consider that they have performed their contract, and they are calling upon the Government to perform its. Who shall blame them? Then why bury our heads in the sand, pretending that all is well, when as a matter of fact—apart altogether from the peril of industrial upheaval—the nation is living in dire peril of something very like mutiny in both branches of the Service? Let Mr. Lloyd George boldly face the facts, and tell us what he proposes to "do about it."

A Home Peace Conference Wanted.

So much for the soldiers and sailors. And now what about this strike wave which is sweeping the whole country? There may be a lull—but it is only a lull. At any moment we may again find ourselves—and probably shall—in the throes of a general industrial revolt. The nearer we get to the actual signing of peace, the less restraint will there be upon the more patriotic section of the workers, who have held aloof from these recent demonstrations. Let the Government make a careful note of that—I know what I am saying. It is a case of "now or never." Every week, as demobilisation proceeds, the labour market will become more and more overcrowded. Is the transformation of munition works into peace factories being speeded up? When is road-making and repairing, house-building, the development of electrical and other national enterprises, canal and transport reorganisation, and similar work, to commence? And what is the policy of the Government in regard to the Bolshevist and pro-German agitators whose sole object is to cause strife and disunion amongst the workers? I take at random a soldier's letter. This is from one now working at Vickers, at Barrow-in-Furness. Listen to it. "As a soldier who came from overseas at the call of Kitchener for his first hundred thousand men, it makes my blood boil to see three or four thousand of my fellow-workers standing in a row for hours listening to a 'conscientious objector' trying to raise discontent amongst us. These men should be put on a barge and dumped with other rubbish into the sea." And here is a handbill issued by the Glasgow Trades Council calling a general strike for "a minimum 40-hour week," with the proviso "if this fails to have the desired result a more drastic reduction of hours will be demanded." No wonder the workers are getting out of hand. I suppose it is very irregular for me to disclose such things, but I will tell you what happened the other day at Cardiff, where the men are out of all control. In one vessel, during the cutting off of a gun-platform with acetylene gas plant, the boiler-makers' picket came on board, seized the plant and threw it overboard; and although this incident was reported to the authorities, they have so far refused to take any action in the matter. In Swansea, too, things are almost as bad—to give one instance, a superintendent engineer, who was trying to get his vessel out to sea was thrown into the dock!

Fomenters of Revolution.

Does the Premier know anything of these things—happening as they are in his own dearly-beloved little Wales? And here is a report in the *North Western Daily Mail* of a speech by the man Maclean, in which after telling his deluded hearers that "the workers of the world must seize the earth," he went on to say "You must make up your minds and line up with your fellows on the Continent—the Spartacists and the Bolshevists." And read this: "In 1910 he knew there was going to be war. They all knew that the war would inevitably come along. Germany had a great capitalist concern and a great policy. She wished for colonies, but she was kept out by Britain wherever she went, and Britain got allies to prepare for war when Germany was anxious to capture by force many of the markets of the world. It was the capitalist class of Germany *versus* the capitalists of Britain. That was why he absolutely refused to lay down his life in this war. *But he was quite prepared to fight in a class war.* From the commencement of the war he said his enemy was at home, and his enemy was still at home." And what do you think of this from Mr. "Jack" Tanner, one of the most active of the strike leaders:—"Trotsky asked us to do two things. The first was to organise agitations to stop the British Government sending troops to Russia. The second was to bring about a revolution in Great Britain. If we manage the second it will please Trotsky and Lenin much more than the first." Why doesn't the Government take all these fellows by the neck, as they have done in the case of Soemus, the wild Russian violinist, and pack them off to their "spiritual home" in Russia? Now can anyone even for merely a moment contend that this sort of stuff should be spread broadcast amongst the workers? They are not wanted here. Every industry has its organised Trade Union, with representatives in Parliament and on the various public bodies, and, what is more to the point, with ample Strike Funds to provide out-of-work pay during any legitimate crisis. Now will Mr. Lloyd George adopt my suggestion and at once pass a short Act, rendering illegal any strike which is not authorised by a majority of the workers of the recognised union of the trade affected? This, as I have pointed out, is the essence of democratic government, and is at the same time the only safeguard of that law and order which are the first essential to the welfare of the workers. But, after all, such a measure is but a temporary expedient. We have to realise that the hour has struck for a complete revision of the whole relations between Capital and Labour, and for the setting up of new machinery for adjusting all differences and disputes in the future. What we want is that, contemporaneously with the World Peace Conference sitting in Paris, there should be convened at home an Industrial Peace Conference, to which representatives from all the capitalist and labour organisations should be summoned for a full and free interchange of views and the drafting of a measure setting up a new Department of State, armed with plenary powers to settle all questions hereafter arising between employers and employed—regulating wages, limiting profits, and giving workers a fair share of any surplus wealth produced by the union of honest Toil and properly directed Enterprise. Not a day should be lost in convening that Conference. But concurrently with it we should have a well-organised and intelligent system of propaganda amongst the workers. Heaven knows, my own hands are full enough just now, but I would willingly, if properly backed up, go from one end of the country to the other in an effort to counteract the pernicious influences of these Bolshevist agitators—who are apparently permitted to indulge in their sinister campaign with impunity. Is the Prime Minister afraid of them? If so, *I* am not. But then, you see, I am only the "Unofficial" Prime Minister!

In giving publicity to the views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes must be marked "People's Pulpit."

THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.

Old Age Pensions :—"It seems to me at the present time a grave injustice that a man in receipt of 18s. per week, private sources, cannot claim the Old Age Pension, especially as the cost of living is so exceedingly high and likely to remain so for some considerable time. I think, under the circumstances, the 18s. limit should be increased, to allow the Old Age Pensioner to get the full pension, as a Citizen Right."—H. Bird, Portwall Road, Paddington.

The Six-Hour Proposition :—"I am certain this is the cause of much of the Labour trouble. It is all very well for Lord Leverhulme, because he has a monopoly for his goods. Since he commenced this agitation his soap has gone up 200 per cent., and by the time he grants this six hours it will be up 300 per cent. What about our export trade for all our manufactured goods if this principle has to be applied all round? It will end in less than six hours a day, for there will be no work at all."—R. Fell, Market Hall, Rhyl.

Why Should Nottingham Wait ? :—"With three pits within easy walking distance, and with a crowded Labour Exchange, why should Nottingham have to wait an inordinate time for delivery of small loads of coal—say 1 ton to 30 cwt.?"—W. M., Windmill Lane, Nottingham.

Cheaper Food :—"There is a very large part of the population, numbering some millions, who have to live on 25s. to 30s. a week, just merely existing—who had anxiously looked forward to the time when the war would be over and pre-war prices would return. It's now three months since the Armistice, but it is just the same—in some cases things are dearer. I rely on my small income of 27s. per week to live—I don't grumble at this. All I want is food made much cheaper."—J. P. B., Peckham.

The Servant Problem :—"Every employer should be under licence—also every servant—at about 5s. per year each. Courts in every district should be set aside for the purpose of saying if the licences should be endorsed or not on either side. This should be coupled with the total abolition of the present system of giving characters, as it is altogether unfair."—"Butler," Onslow Square, South Kensington.

The Housing Shortage :—"I have been in the building trade all my life as master and as man, and the best solution, I consider, and the cheapest to the nation is as follows: 1st. For the Government to say and finally settle how much they are going to spend in subsidies for the housing of the people. 2nd. To apportion the amount out in districts as necessary, leaving a surplus for out-of-way places which cannot be specified. 3rd. To state the amount, pro ratio, which is to be paid to builders of 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8-roomed houses in those districts, built according to the existing Bye-laws."—"Pro-Bono-Publico," Percy Street, Rotherham.

Eggs :—"I am in the egg trade, putting them out in lots of 120's, 60's, 30's to shopkeepers. The Order says I must not pay more than 50s. and not put them out above 50s. 9d. 50s. is the price in Ireland. The freight varies from 6d. to 7½d.; the smallest average waste per 120 is 3, bringing the actual cost to about 52s. How is a man to bear the cost of wear and tear of to-day and put them out at the price mentioned in the Order?"—A. G. Bryant, Cardiff.

G.P.O.'s Graciousness :—"Civil Servants have petitioned for optional retirement on attaining the age of 55 years, but it has not been granted. If this were conceded a goodly number of vacancies would be opened up and many promotions would naturally follow, thus affording opportunities for returning soldiers to obtain Civil Service appointments."—J. Davies, Junr., Barking Road, Barking.

Marine Losses :—"Can you tell me whether this reparation 'stunt,' or compensation for sinking passenger ships is to benefit the passengers or shipowners?"—"Lusitania," Milman Road, Shaw, near Oldham.

Industrial Unrest :—"Why will not the Government at once reduce the price of food? The high cost of living is one of the most palpable causes of the present unrest. It is stated that the Government have invested in large quantities of food at high prices; if so, let them cut the loss—which the country would cheerfully bear. Again, traders are said to have large stocks which, if prices are reduced, they would have to sell at a loss; they have made huge profits on their stocks at the beginning of the war, and can well afford a loss."—R. Finlay Heron, M.A., West Tarring.

Indemnities :—"Our cowardly Foreign Office is on its knees to the murderous Bolshevists: our Prime Minister, fawning on America. We are to be taxed to death to feed the Germans who have outraged and ruined us. The Germans are not to pay an indemnity. Also Wilson has rushed to Europe above all at the urgent request of his prominent German bankers and their millions of clients. He is over solely to get easy terms for Germany; to mitigate punishment."—Arthur W. Knight, Florence, Italy.

Army Pensions :—"I joined the Army in 1862, and some years later got a commission from the ranks, after a service at home and in India of over twenty-eight years; was placed on retired pay, £200 a year. Few rankers have private means. I am entirely dependent, at the age of 75, on the above pension, purchasing power now about £70 a year. Please don't think I am grumbling without cause or asking for unmerited favour."—"A Ranker," Leamington Spa.

"Very Free Trade" :—"Last week I had occasion to buy a woven undergarment for a child, paying the usual high 1919 price, and was surprised to find a tiny silk label attached, 'Quality Guaranteed, Made in Germany.' On returning to the shop to ask why they had sold me the above, they politely told me that German goods had been coming into the market, through Neutral Countries, during the whole of the war, and that larger supplies are expected now."—"Disgusted," Milton Road, West Hartlepool.

The Army of Occupation :—"It is much to be regretted that the Government propose to compel soldiers who have been wounded to continue to remain in the Army. Apart from the unfairness of this proceeding, it has upon several occasions been stated that no wounded soldier would again be returned overseas, and so these men have been anticipating early release. This new condition has caused keen disappointment and dissatisfaction."—Grenville H. Flower, Coronation Road, Bristol.

A Comparison :—"Why should a Company-Sergeant-Major or Company-Quartermaster-Sergeant or Sergeant, who are the 'real' leaders, and the 'real' men—the 'pivotal' men of the Army, and the real 'man-handlers,' and who do nine-tenths of the work—be pushed out of the Service with a paltry £28 or £30, while the conscript ex-private officer, of no particular qualifications—except that he is not a 'pivotal' man—is perhaps leaving the Service with a sum approaching three figures, and then they clamour for more?"—"Sergeant," Withernsea.

How to Stop Strikes :—"Labour sees shareholders receiving dividends amounting to as much as 80 per cent., made to a large extent on their labour, and at the same time out of their pockets. The only weapon Labour has is the Strike, which though giving a body of workers an increase of wage, does not decrease dividends, but increases prices to the detriment of other workers. Labour, by combining its capital, can produce even at one pound per head a very large sum, by which wholesale and retail businesses could be set up equal to any of the large companies. Labour would thus not only compete, but would own, and reap the benefits of profits made."—Albert C. Scott, Coleman Place, St. Austell.

Another Method :—"There are many men in the Army who would be only too glad to get back to 'civvies' on half the pay which these striking skunks demand; men who would not want a six-hour day as they have worked 24 hours a day during the last four years of War—and, if it could have been possible it would have been 48."—Cpl. W. C. and Driver A. F. Sheerness.

Army Clothing :—"Your paragraph on army blankets prompts me to suggest that soldiers should also be permitted to buy their underclothing. Statements in the Press have repeatedly assured us that the "undies" and the uniform were the property of the men. Yet my husband, who was demobilised on the 23rd January from the N. Staffs., after a period in hospital, had to hand in his shirt and drawers arriving home with what he stood upright in, plus his towels."—"The Missus," Liverpool.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

(Registered under the Act of 1916 as "The John Bull War Sufferers Fund.")

This fund affords immediate relief to the dependents of soldiers and sailors stranded for want of money. Every farthing subscribed goes to some deserving person—we gladly defray all expenses.

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following :—

A Birdman's Burden :—The wife of a member of the R.A.F. has, after years of unsuccessful treatment, gone blind, and is at present in hospital. She has a little girl, and wished to have her placed in a boarding school away from the suffering of home life that would result from her mother's affliction. Money was required for an outfit, the father being unable to provide one from his Service pay. Other expenses also had to be met.

The Last Straw :—A discharged soldier, suffering from tuberculosis, has been ill for a long period. His wife, who has a bad heart affection, has also had to cease work. The man's pension will barely suffice to keep the wolf from the door, and to make matters worse, their child was run over and its leg broken. A keen Clapham doctor's account was rendered for first aid, which we settled immediately, and provided a surplus for the child's after care.

Handicapped :—The hardworking wife of an ex-soldier is greatly harassed through the constant anxiety of tending her crippled child. She has to lose time from work taking him to hospital, thus making her weekly wage a very small one.

Doubly Bereaved :—Five of her sons have served in the present war, one of them a Mons hero—being discharged with shell-shock. He contracted 'flu, which turned to pneumonia, and died away from home, uninsured. His mother had to borrow money to visit him, he being in hospital far distant.

Old Soldier's Hardships :—Discharged from the Army with only one arm, and suffering from varicose veins, also a weak heart, a poor fellow cannot hold remunerative employment. He has an invalid wife to support, which he intends to do by means of hawking, we having provided the money with which to purchase stock. Two of his sons have served in the war, but could not assist him as they are married.

Further Relief Given :—

Sailor's wife attending doctor, and could not pay the bill.

Mother of demobilised soldier ill in bed, and in great distress. Son no longer able to assist her.

Child suffering from consumption; the mother cannot cope with expense of doctor and special diet.

Discharged soldier—shell-shock sufferer—off work. Pension will not supply needs of wife and four children.

Soldier's "unmarried" wife incapacitated by illness; allowance quite inadequate to meet extra expenses.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WHAT HAVE *YOU* GIVEN?

Clerks of Section 41/TF/A.P.O., 15s.; M. M. (Devonport), 1s.; F. E. P. (Exeter), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. A. M. B. (S. Newington), 1s. 6d.; "My Bit," £10; No. 1. Advanced R.E. Park (B.E.F.), £11 9s. 10d.; "A Scot," 9s.; E. A., 2s.; P.Q., 1s. 3d.; A. G. (Anerley), 1s.; "Rosy Cross," £2 10s.; Mrs. S. (Hove), 2s.; J. A. M., 1s.; Anon, 10s.; P. E. C. (Weston-super-Mare), 2s. 6d.; E. S. (Fulham), 5s.; "Swear Box, 5s.; "In Dicky-boy's Money Box," 3s. 2d.; F. H. (Abertillery), 2s.; H. L. C. (Gosport), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. H. Y., 1s., R. M. M. (Watford), 1s.; W. J. L. (Barking), 5s.; "In Memory of Bruce," 2s. 6d.; "A Pig-Keeper," 10s.; G. D. C. (Aston), 2s.; "Time-ex. Terrier," 1s.; "Grateful One," 6d.; T. J. F. (Hackney), £1; "A Bristol Kin," £2; "Five Basford," 1s., Proceeds of Raffle, Barberton Club, £1 16s.; Football Team H.M.S. *Hamelake* (per J. P.), £1 10s.; "In the Name of S. H. B., Killed in Action" (per H. G.), 5s.; I. T., 4d.; W. S. (Hammersmith), 1s. 3d.; Part proceeds of Fancy Dress Dance (per L. C. C. & G. A. C.), £5; Pte. T. S., 1s.; "A Soldier's Wife," 1s.; Anon., 1s.; E. M. B. (Canterbury), 10s.; "Don Q.," 2s. 6d.; Sergeants, 3rd D.C.L.I. (per F. C. C.), £1 5s.; S. African Police Force (per E. G.), £3; "Extreme East," £5 5s.; F. A. T. (Shanghai), 10s.; F. C. (Dublin), 1s. 6d.; C. N. E. (H.M.S. *Nantes*), £3 10s.; "Taxi Driver 5272," 1s.; J. W. (Ilkley), 1s. 6d.; Pte. J. F., 2s. 3d.; S. G. T. (Torquay), 2s. 8d.; "Bedford" 1s. 6d.; Mrs. F. L. (Camberwell), 5s.; W. L. T. and J. S., 20 frs.; "Taxi Driver 5272," 1s.; F. L. C. C. (Kilmarnock), 5s.; T. H. L. (Streatham), 3s.; "Sandbachian," 5s.; J. G. (Aberdeen), 1s.; "A Reader" (Tipperary), 2s. 6d.; S. H. C. (Brockley), 2s.; Collection, Staff of Portveyrammer Co-op., Sons, Ltd. (per A. B.), £1 1s.; L. G. (Johannesburg), 5s. 6d.; H. B. W. (Dover), £5; H. W. S., 2s. 6d.; "Fly-to-her," 2s. 6d.; A. C., 10s.; "In Memory of My Dear Husband," 5s.; "In His Name," 10s.; W. R. G. G. (Castleford), 1s.; Mrs. M. D. (Paisley), 1s.

(Owing to pressure upon space, it is impossible to acknowledge in the columns of the paper contributions made by means of our Collecting Boxes. The holders of such boxes are, however, given official printed receipts.)

MR. BOTTOMLEY SAYS "PELMANISE IT."

In a recent article in JOHN BULL Mr. Bottomley concluded his remarks with a vigorous "PELMANISE IT."

It is the phrase of the day. Everyone is doing it—everyone, that is, who wants to get on in the world. But readers of JOHN BULL—who are of the "getting-on" kind—will naturally attach especial importance to this advice when it comes, as it does, from the pen of the most fearlessly independent public man in Britain.

THE MAN WHO MEANS BUSINESS.

For what Horatio Bottomley says *he means*. He is no dealer in empty catch-words. He does not traffic in meaningless formulæ. He is no mouther of senseless shibboleths. He is a man who hands out solid FACTS in every article he writes, and he knows that in Pelmanism we possess one of *the big facts* of the day. He knows too, what splendid national work the Pelman Institute has done, is doing, and will do in the future. And he believes in Pelmanism as a priceless and peerless national asset.

Moreover, it is not only Now, when Pelmanism has become world famous, that H.B. believes in it. With his usual far-sightedness he insisted upon its national value long before any other prominent public man raised a voice in its praise. Years ago he said of the Pelman System that "under a Business Government it would form part of our national education." And now, years later, although perhaps the Business Government of which he spoke has not yet been constituted, Pelmanism has certainly become an important part of our national life.

THE ARMY'S MAGNIFICENT LEAD.

Mr. Bottomley's advice to "Pelmanise it" has been followed by tens of thousands of JOHN BULL's readers. It has been followed by thousands of business men and women, by thousands of members of the Professions, by thousands of men in the Army and Navy. And it has been followed, too, with the best results. For Pelmanism never disappoints those who conscientiously follow it. You cannot work through the Pelman Course without securing real, practical and profitable advantages in your career.

The Army has given a truly magnificent lead to the entire nation in adopting Pelmanism—well over 100,000 officers and men having taken up the Course in the last year or two. *And the rate of enrolment is increasing daily.* Each month that passes sets up a new record. Brigade enrolments of several hundred men at one time are by no means uncommon. Applications for these "mass enrolments" have been received during the past three weeks from all parts—from France, from the occupied districts of Germany, from Egypt and from Italy. The Army discovered the value of Pelmanism during the war, and it has determined to apply it to ensure Prosperity in the coming days of Peace.

THE TOPIC OF THE YEAR.

The same thing is happening in civil life. It is no longer a case of here and there a single ardent and ambitious employé in a firm enrolling himself for a Course; to-day the heads of big business houses are taking the matter in hand themselves and enrolling the members of their staffs by scores and even by hundreds for a course of Pelmanism,

Wherever you go, in fact, you meet Pelmanists and hear Pelmanism discussed. It is *the* topic of the year, and every day public interest in this wonderful system intensifies. There never has been a movement which has promised so much for the workers, and which has fulfilled its promises so truly, so fully and so promptly.

The Directors of the Pelman Institute do not permit extravagant over-statements to be made in their Press and other announcements. Many Pelmanists, in fact, are rather apt to write to the Institute pointing out that in their judgment the value of the Course is being under-stated. "If the full facts were known," writes one, "the doors of the Pelman Institute would be besieged by eager applicants."

This is undoubtedly true. A man wants to "make good." If he only understood the possibilities of Pelmanism the first thing he would do would be to adopt it—and then he would "make good." At the present time perhaps he has only read about Pelmanism in the papers, or heard it talked about. He hasn't tried it yet himself. But he will. One day he will follow the example of the several hundred thousand practising Pelmanists and take the Course. And then he will get the same results as they are getting—improved positions and doubled and trebled incomes.

HIGHER PAY WITHOUT STRIKES OR OVERTIME.

Income increases! Why the income increases brought about by practising Pelmanism are simply marvellous. Talk about strikes for Higher Pay! Pelmanism means higher pay without strikes and without overtime either. For the Pelmanist can put in more and better work in one hour than the non-Pelmanist can put in in two. And he can do it without brain-fag and with far less mental exertion. If your brain is working stiffly and dully you may strain it if you work it hard, just as when machinery is clogged and rusty you may strain that when you switch on the power. Oil lubricates and eases the machinery, and Pelmanism oils and eases the brain. The Pelmanised brain works easily and swiftly, so that whatever you are *doing* becomes a pleasure and not a pain. Whereas the work of the heavy, sleepy, clogged and strained brain is usually poor work, the work of a Pelmanist is good work—and being good work it is well-paid work. That's why your income goes up when you take a Pelman Course. Some even report as much as a 300 per cent. increase of income as the result of Pelmanism (your income *trebled*, think of that!) and there is at least one case where a man is able to attribute a 600 *per cent.* increase of income to the adoption of Pelmanism.

As for reports of incomes increased from 50 to 100 per cent., these are every-day occurrences, so that there can be no possible doubt whatever that from a purely financial point of view Pelmanism pays hand over fist, and is a sound gilt-edged investment which never fails to pay big and growing dividends.

DEVELOPS POWER AND PERSONALITY.

But money is not all that Pelmanism brings to you. There are other things in the world equally desirable—more desirable to some. And Pelmanism helps to get these also. Take the case of a prosperous Business or Professional man who becomes a Pelmanist, not for the purpose of swelling his banking account—he may have made as much money as he really wants already—but to help him retain a youthful brightness and activity of mind long after middle age has been passed. We all know men and women, old perhaps in years, but young in mind and disposition, bubbling over with energy, who still take to their business that mental freshness and clarity which brought them success whilst they were still young. That is the Pelman type. That is the type that Pelmanism preserves and is increasing. Many people when they have made their business position secure like to turn their attention to something else—public life, politics, literature, science, something quite different to their regular occupation. Pelmanism enables this mental transition to be made with ease, and success to be won in the new sphere as in the old. Pelmanism brings out latent and perhaps unsuspected talents. It develops *Personality*, it enables people to give full and fitting expression to their ideas, to lead instead of following, to originate instead of copying; in a word, it develops an all-round mental capacity and efficiency which can be used by its Pelmanised possessor, either as a means of increasing income or for any other purpose he or she may desire. And as tens of thousands of cases can be quoted to prove all these things small wonder that Pelmanism is so popular.

Pelmanism is a practical personalised method which enables you to become more efficient, to increase your income-earning powers, and to be successful in whatever line of life is yours. It costs little to learn and is easy to master. It has brought golden opportunities to thousands. And if you determine to follow it, it will be of the greatest possible personal and profitable service to YOU.

Full particulars of the Pelman Course are given in "Mind and Memory," which also contains a complete descriptive Synopsis of the 12 lessons. A copy of this interesting booklet, together with a full reprint of "Truth's" famous Report on the work of the Pelman Institute, and particulars showing how you can secure the complete Course at a reduced fee, may be obtained gratis and post free by any reader of JOHN BULL, *who applies to the Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.*

Overseas addresses: 46-48, Market Street, Melbourne. 15, Toronto Street, Toronto. Club Arcade, Durban.

"TOMMY AND JACK."

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheeseparing, shall go unchallenged and unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 10th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

Magnificent:—If our commercial men want to know what organisation is, let them go to the demobilisation department, under General Burnett-Hitchcock, and the pay Departments run by General Sir John Carter. Those two great branches of the Service are perfect wonders.

Profiteers:—It is bad enough for the civilians ashore to be robbed on all sides by traders, but why should Tommy be victimised north, south, east and west, on the leave ships?

From Ireland:—The men at the Mullingar Barracks, in Ireland, tell us that the food is simply not fit for pigs. They wonder if they have a cook, as all the meals are served cold. There is consequently grave dissatisfaction in the ranks. Will this hint be sufficient for the Officer in Command? If not, we leave it to the G.O.C. at the Royal Hospital, Dublin.

The Boys of Wexford:—We have a letter from the old men of the 453rd Pro. Coy. R.D.C., at Wexford. It enumerates many grievances, one of which is that somebody wants to make the canteen unattractive, and keeps it without fire. Here again we appeal to the Royal Hospital Command.

A Query:—The newspapers tell us that men are falling over themselves to join the New Army, and that we shall have a plethora of soldiers. If this is the case, why should badly-wounded men be sent to guard dirty Huns?

The Boys' Kick:—Last week about 2,000 leave men returning to France from all parts of the Kingdom were coolly told to remain in London for a further 24 hours, no brass hat caring a "cuss" whether they had money to go to a Rowton House or had to sleep in the gutters—without food. We regret that the boys shoved the butts of their rifles through the windows of the War Office and Horse Guards.

"JACK."

The Officer Turned Down:—An officer, on being demobilised from the Navy, is not given any leave on full pay and allowances; the men receive twenty-eight days' leave on full pay. Why the differentiation?

Not Fair:—The men who brought their barges over the Channel in all weathers, and took them up the rivers in France till within a few miles of the firing line, are being given only the same gratuities as are received by fellows who had cushy jobs at home. In plain English, we say that their treatment is shabby. Before it is too late, will the Admiralty give them their due?

Carry On!:—We have many letters from the Accountants' Branch of the Navy, complaining that they are not allowed to be demobilised, whether pivotal or not. The order given by the Admiralty is that a man cannot be discharged until he can be spared. When will this be?

Good News:—The Admiral Jerram Commission has been working at lightning speed, and at the same time has been taking microscopic evidence. The Admiral is the friend of the sailor, and we tell all our Jack Tars that if "My Lords and others" take heed of his Report they will have few, if any, grievances.

A Tip from Grimsby:—While "attached" to H.M.S. *Venerable* at Portland, a number of vessels received a signal informing all R.N.R.(T.) ratings that they might retain their oilskins, sea boots and blankets on demobilisation. On arrival at Grimsby, however, they were told that if they did not give up the gear they would be charged for it. Why this should be so we cannot make out, as the trawler men discharged at other ports have been allowed to keep the things.

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of discharged sailors' and soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or official information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

Not So.—It has come to our knowledge that many discharged men abstain from regular work because they believe that their pensions will be regulated by the wages they earn. This is not so, and we can assure the Badgers that they are acting against their own interests.

A Rich Firm:—The firm of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co., Ltd., have not done badly out of the war. An ex-employee of theirs, who is now Private Ord, joined the Army a few days after war was declared. In reply to his application he received the following. "We regret owing to the cancellation of all Government contracts we have no vacancy to offer you.—W. J. Marjoribanks." So Private Ord, who is still in France, is left wondering how many hands who never shouldered a Lee-Enfield, but climbed into the Newcastle funk-hole, are still in the employment of the firm.

The Lancashire and Yorkshire:—Lance-Corporal R. Heidstrom has applied to the Manager of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, in Liverpool, for re-instatement. The answer he received was as follows:—"I would point out that you left the Company on your own accord at a time when we could ill afford to lose your services. Now that the war is over, and our men who joined the Army with permission are being released, positions have to be saved for them, and there is little prospect of your services being again required by the L. and Y. Railway Company." And yet we are told that the present ragtime state of our railway service is due to the fact that the bulk of the railway men are still at the Front!

One More Victim:—John Lowe, of Glebe Street, Leven (which is in Scotland), has won the Military Medal. Writing to the Methil Co-operative Society asking to be taken back, he was told that his application could not be entertained as he had left the service "on his own account"!

RACING NOTES AND ANTICIPATIONS.

By "THES QUIRE."

KING FROST STILL IN THE WAY.

In the most literal sense, winter racing this season is proving a frost. First of all, owing to the uncertainty of racing at all, trainers were all behind with their horses—with the result that we had very small fields for most of the events; and now, after the Windsor fiasco, we have had the complete abandonment of the Lingfield meeting owing to continued frost and snow. At the time of writing, too, I should not be prepared to lay long odds on the Gatwick fixture this week coming off, for the same reason. In our enforced idleness we have had time to study the weights for the Grand National and the Lancashire Steeplechase, and I have formed a pretty definite idea as to what will be "the goods" for these two events. I hope at a very early date to be in a position to give a clear lead to my followers.

Items of gossip are that the projected Inquiry into the running of CANUTE at Sandown Park—asked for by Mr. Bottomley—is in abeyance, and the same remark would appear to apply to the proposed match between that horse and CAROL SINGER. I notice, however, that they are both in a race at Gatwick, together with MONARD, who was second at Sandown Park, and DOCTOR RYAN, who was third, and we shall await with interest their appearance at the post.

Much interest has also been excited over the match between SUBMIT and WILD ASTER—two of the oldest horses now in training, and to be ridden by their respective owners, Mr. John Coleman, the well-known veterinary surgeon, and Mr. C. Tabor, who was a good amateur rider in his day. The old warriors are to run two miles over hurdles for £50 a-side, SUBMIT conceding 5 lbs., being a pound for each year of his seniority in age over his opponent. It is a true sporting affair, but we, of course, must not look for any record-breaking in the matter of time!

And now for my selections for the Gatwick meeting:—

WEDNESDAY.

Thames Valley Hurdle, CANUTE.
Staines Steeplechase, WISETON II.
Kempton Park Hurdle, CORYDON.
Match, WILD ASTER.
Paddock Steeplechase, GREENWICH.
Littleton Steeplechase, THE KNOCKS.
Middlesex Maiden Hurdle, STARR.

THURSDAY.

Weybridge Steeplechase, MINSTREL PARK.
Norbiton Steeplechase, MASK OFF.
Hanworth Hurdle Race, CEYX.
Cranford Steeplechase, MACMERRY.
Egham Hurdle Race, THEODOSIUS.

"The Hidden Hand" Film has thoroughly caught on, and is being exhibited *this* week at the following places:—Stockport, Alexandra Cinema; Reddish, Bijou Picture Theatre; Tooting, King's Hall, High Street. *Next* week it will be on view at the following places:—Wimbledon, Apollo Cinema; Oxford, Oxford Cinema Theatre; High Wycombe, Grand Cinema; Middleton, The Empire; Ancoats, Butler Street Electric; Kinnel, Saronic's Pictures; Rhyl, Super Cinema; Prestatyn, Town Hall; Stockport, Alexandra Cinema; Leigh, Bijou Cinema.

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

"SHOP GIRLS":—
"Illustrations of everything that a woman had ever worn or could ever wear, since the first FIG LEAF plucked from the APPLE TREE."

"CREWE CHRONICLE" (heading):—
"Nantwich Farmers' Club. Mr. S. Bourne describes HOW HE INCREASED HIS FLOW OF MILK."

"EDINBURGH EVENING NEWS" (advertisement of sale):—
"Household Furniture, Furnishings, LEFT-OFF APPAREL, INCLUDING DINING-ROOM SUITE."

"BAZAAR." (advertisement):—
"Wanted . . . children's IRON money boxes, WOOD OR TIN."

"GRIMSBY DAILY NEWS":—
"The driver frantically sounded his hooter. . . . If I had got KILLED, I should have SUED FOR DAMAGES."

"AUCKLAND STAR" (advertisement):—
"MOURNING Suit, suitable for shopwalker, professional man, best man, or VAUDEVILLE ARTIST brand new."

"HOME COMPANION":—
"Spilt salt means broken friendship and trouble. A pinch EATEN and THROWN OVER THE LEFT SHOULDER modifies the effects."

"DAILY CHRONICLE" (advertisement):—
"Woman (Strong, reliable), WHO CAN COOK SMALL FAMILY."

"PESHAWAR DAILY NEWS" (advertisement):—
"Bay mare, aged . . . height 14 FEET 2 INCHES."

Don't blind yourself to food facts.

Your daily problem is to supply your food-needs in appetising form at lowest cost. The official way of showing the nourishing value of any food is by the number of "Calories" or food units it contains. Thus, you need from 2,500 to 3,500 "Calories" a day according to the work you do.

Here are some interesting comparisons based upon figures given in a book issued by the Ministry of Food:—

This is the Government Table of Food Values expressed in Calories per pound of each food

	Calories.	Price.
Butter	3,604	2s. 6d.
Bacon (16% bone) ...	2,275	2s. 4d.
Cheese	1,777	1s 8d.
Ham	1,670	2s. 4d.
Beef (18% bone) ...	1,000	1s. 9d.
Mutton (24% bone) ...	993	1s. 9d.
Poultry	701	2s. 8d.
Eggs (8 equal to 1 lb.) ...	624	3s. 8d.
Fish	228	1s. 5d.

Compare this with the large packet of Quaker Oats, which gives over 3,500 calories and costs 11½d.

CONSIDER THESE FACTS—You can feed six people on Quaker Oats for the cost of feeding one on meats; you can feed them vastly better, for the Oat is considered the greatest food that grows—and Quaker Oats is the highest grade of oat food.

Quaker Oats

WITH THAT EXQUISITE FLAVOUR.

QUAKER OATS, LTD., FINSBURY SQUARE, E.C.2.

183

LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK

ESTABLISHED 1836. [LTD.

Authorised Capital, £41,450,000 0 **Subscribed Capital, £34,428,948 0**

Paid-up Capital £7,172,697 10 **Reserve Fund £7,172,697 10**

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JOINT GENERAL MANAGERS.

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Dr. Liabilities and Assets, 31st December, 1918 Cr.

Liabilities	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Assets	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Capital Paid up, viz.:—			By Cash in Hand (including Gold Coin £8,000,000) and Cash at Bank of England		63,736,371 3 5
„ £2 10s. 0d. per share on 2,869,079 Shares of £12 each		7,172,697 10 0	„ Cheques on other Banks *in transitu*		2,001,186 12 7
„ Reserve Fund		7,172,697 0 0	„ Money at Call and at Short Notice		67,899,169 12 4
„ Dividend payable on 1st February, 1919		451,879 18 10	„ Investments:—		
„ Balance of Profit and Loss Account, as below		675,097 14 7	War Loans, at cost (of which £432,979 15s. is lodged for Public and other Accounts), and other British Government Securities		37,162,594 19 3
		15,472,372 13 5	Stocks guaranteed by the British Government and Indian Railway Debentures		468,383 13 0
„ Current, Deposit and other Accounts		334,898,435 12 6	British Railway Debenture and Preference Stocks, British Corporation Stocks		1,112,725 19 8
„ Acceptances on Account of Customers		15,145,849 2 11	Colonial and Foreign Government Stocks and Bonds		1,510,467 18 10
			Sundry Investments		1,145,181 1 6
			„ Bills of Exchange		29,249,226 3 3
					232,416,975 1 7
			„ Advances on Current and other Accounts		99,213,614 15 6
			„ Advances on War Loans		14,218,291 3 1
			„ Liabilities of Customers for Acceptances		15,145,849 2 11
			„ Bank Premises, at Head Office and Branches		3,762,327 6 7
			„ Belfast Bank Shares:— 50,000 £12 10s. 0d. Old Shares £2 10s. 0d. paid. 150,000 £12 10s. 0d. New Shares £2 10s. 0d. paid. Cost £1,537,500 0 0 *Less* part premium on Shares issued 177,810 0 0		739,690 0 0
	£363,516,657 8 10			£363,516,657 8 10	

Dr. Profit and Loss Account for the year ending 31st December, 1918. Cr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Dividend at 18 per cent. per annum for the year ending December 31st, 1918, less Income Tax		919,885 10 5	By Balance from last Account		733,785 5 8
„ Reserve Fund for future Contingencies		600,000 0 0	„ Net profits for the year ending December 31st, 1918, after providing for all Bad and Doubtful Debts		2,700,329 13 11
„ Salaries and Bonus to Staff serving with H.M. Forces and Bonus to other Members of the Staff		469,132 14 7			
„ Bank Premises Redemption Fund		100,000 0 0			
„ Officer's Pension Fund		100,000 0 0			
„ Staff Widows' Fund		50,000 0 0			
„ Reserve Fund		500,000 0 0			
„ Balance carried forward to next account		675,097 14 7			
	£3,434,115 19 7			£3,434,115 19 7	

EDWARD H. HOLDEN, CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR.
W. G. BRADSHAW, A. H. GOSCHEN, } DEPUTY CHAIRMEN.
R. McKENNA, W. S. M. BURNS, } DIRECTORS.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED.

In accordance with the provisions of Sub-section 2 of Section 113 of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, we report as follows:—

We have examined the above Balance Sheet in detail with the Books at Head Office, and with the certified returns from the Branches. We have satisfied ourselves as to the correctness of the Cash Balances, Cheques on other banks *in transitu*, and the Bills of Exchange, and have verified the correctness of the Money at Call and Short Notice. We have also verified the Securities representing the Investments of the Bank, and having obtained all the information and explanations we have required, we are of opinion that such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Company.

WHINNEY, SMITH & WHINNEY, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, Auditors.

London, 14th January, 1919.

This Bank is the Proprietor of the Belfast Banking Company, Limited.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 92, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

P. M. (Moseley).—Don't overlook the fact that Mr. Wilson speaks also for over 3½ millions Austrians and Germans—and naturally can't forget it.

J. C. (Clapham).—So you think we are to be "the Master-builder of a brighter Britain." Some job, isn't it?

"TRAVELLER" (Spittal).—As you say, the 50 per cent. increase in railway fares was boosted as a war-tax, but you can bet it will be a peace tax as long as you are able to sit up and peck a bit.

"ONE OF THE BRAVS" (Italy).—"O.B.E.—Officialdom Before Empire." Clever lad.

Mrs. W. K. (Swindon).—"Perhaps you will remember I am Auntie to little JOHN BULL!" Are we likely to forget a matter of such supreme moment? All that remains for us now is to hear from that "sacred Aunt" "junior subs." so often appeal to.

"TOMMIES AT WREXHAM."—The King's uniform should be good enough for any ball, "fancy dress" or otherwise. If not, hang a "dicky" over your tunic and go as "The Man Who Stayed at Home." The point will not be missed.

"BEN" (East Cowes) yearns to look upon us in the solid flesh. If he is out when we are in, he should call.

H. R. (Norden).—It is not merely necessary "to rid the Liquor Control Board of the pernicious influence of Philip Snowden and the U.K.A. chairman and crew," but to confer the uncompromising kibosh on the whole trouble-breeding Board.

A. E. F. (Nottingham).—"You're favourite over obstacles when Parliamentary racing begins." Our number's up, and we're a starter.

B. C. (Washington, U.S.).—"Would it be wise" to have the Kaiser and Crown Prince tried and punished in England? It would not be wise, because the chances are we should treat them not wisely but too well.

J. O. B. (Stromness).—Thanks for invitation to contest Orkney and Shetland, but don't mention it if ever you are in South Hackney.

GNR. W. S. (B.E.F., France).—The traitor Roger Casement was hanged in Pentonville Prison on August 3rd, 1916. So perish all traitors!

"CHAIN" (Coventry).—"When does a century start?" With the first run.

"BERTRAM" (Cakemore).—"The good H. B. of great renown. He lives in almost every town. To be Prime Minister is his ambition. "He's just the man for that position." Shush! Lloyd George will hear you!

Mrs. B. S. (Caterham).—Congratulations! You make as fine a John Bull as the masculine original. But a word in your dainty ear—who's your breeches maker?

"ONE OF YOUR BACKERS-UP" (Almondbury).—"I never felt so pleased in all my life as I did when you were made an M.P." Even we experienced a moment of pleasurable emotion.

J. H. S. (Omagh).—Any London hotel that re-instals its former Hun waiters will have none of our patronage, nor that of any other decent, patriotic British subject.

J. T. P. (Upper Tooting Park, S.W.).—Mr. Bottomley's name should be pronounced as it is spelt. It does not belong to that class of names of which Cholmondeley is a type.

"LAND GIRLS." (Holker).—If it were within our power to do so, not only would we send you dear girls a piano and gramophone, but sackbuts, trumpets, and shawms into the bargain.

P. F. (Leigh-on-Sea).—So you want Mr. Churchill to strike a medal in commemoration of the "Battle of Sidney Street," do you? Rude man!

"ELLEN" (Aldershot).—"A few minutes of your valuable time to explain why our girls are begrudged this 25s. a week." Why worry? They've got the money.

"PROUD WAACS" (Bostall).—Notice in a restaurant window: "Wanted a waitress; no discharged Waac need apply." The proprietor ought to be whacked.

J. S. (Epping).—"In eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, Satan took stuff to make a swine, and cast it in a corner. But wilily he changed his plan, and shaped it something like a man, And called it Prussia's Kaiser." Aye, aye, sir.

"LABOUR'S DEMAND" (London).—Your demand "Give us more beer, stronger beer!" was addressed to "The Minister of John Bull's Trade, Westminster, House of Commons." But the P.O. altered it to "93, Long Acre." They know something sometimes.

"A SOLDIER'S DAUGHTER" (Hitchin).—"Does one have to be pretty to become a Cinema actress?" Either that or darned ugly.

E. H. S. (Portslade).—A Brighton barmaid told you, a badger with 4 years service, she "wasn't allowed to serve boys." Next time she is thirsty, may some "boy" refuse to serve her.

T. P. (Stratford).—No, anything which checks enterprise checks prosperity. Labour is not infrequently quite as unscrupulous as capital.

N. B. K. (Greenock).—Sorry, but through your using yellow notepaper, we turned very bilious before getting half-way through your letter. Failing pure white, try us with mauve or azure.

"PERSEVERE" (Leith).—We note that you have re-written the National Anthem. You might now try your hand at "Annie Laurie" and "Three Blind Mice."

E. H. (Reigate).—"We can get no wine or whisky if we happen to be sick." Too true: we know a chap who failed utterly after "happening to be sick" every day for a month.

E. T. (Walworth).—Afraid we cannot undertake to "put an end to the sarcastic remarks" of another journal. Probably the writer thinks he is funny, and that is about the hardest idea of any to knock out of a man's head.

T. H. (Cross Hands).—The Surbiton barber who refused to attend to your khaki friends, saying he "did not shave soldiers, only gentlemen," being himself a cad, could not be expected to know the true meaning of the word "gentleman."

H. W. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—"If the worst should come to the worst, I intend coming to London with £600,000,000 and give it to you to give out to relieve the Taxpayers." We hasten to assure you that the worst has most emphatically come to the worst, if not the worser. Wire train you will arrive by.

DR. G. (B.E.F. France).—"Why is a shirt made longer at the back than at the front?" To allow for the contour of the posterior parts when seated.

P. R. (St. Leonards).—Yes, the cover of our issue of October 12th, 1907, is certainly superior to the present, both as to substance and colour. Unfortunately we are unable just now to improve the present one, but as soon as possible will do so. Until our machines, destroyed by air-raid, can be reinstated, the number scheme must be held in abeyance.

W. J. AND J. J. C. (London).—The Air-raid Insurance having now automatically ceased, it will be necessary for you to re-register in order to obtain the benefits of our Free Fire Insurance Scheme.

SERGT. F. S. (Dublin).—Some "Rendezvous" that, where the boys are served so cheaply, as you say, by "real angels." Wings, not flappers, in that case, of course.

C. H. (Emsworth).—The officials ought to know better than to allow children to play about the railway station-platform. And as for elder grown people "sitting about swearing and spitting"—but is Emsworth one of the barbarous states?

W. M. (Nottingham).—"Take in JOHN BULL, well, that is no sin; He doesn't turn nasty by taking *me* in." In to his fold he will take you, no doubt; and never betray you by turning you out.

J. J. D. (Stratford).—You wish us to tell the Bishop of Oxford, who wrote of "Penitent Germany," that he was "talking (condemned) rot." Having disguised your commiratory adjective, the message is ready for the Bishop's ears.

W. (Eastleigh).—If your scheme for preventing influenza is all you claim, how is it that you and the missus have "passed through this awful disease"? Or was that before you brain erupted?

"DISTRACTED" (Lewes).—Cannot say what the W.A.A.C.s. did who "surrendered their uniforms" and "had no civilian clothes to put on." Perhaps they hid behind each other.

A. C. W. (Clapton).—"The times of Bumbledon are past." The man who believes that could swallow a poker.

R. C. (Monmouthshire).—As far as we know, an Italian contributing to the National Health Insurance is entitled to "the 30s. for the wife" as much as an Englishman. Provided he earns it, of course.

Mrs. A. B. (Edgbaston).—No use wishing you were our brother, dear lady. You're not cut out for it.

"MARY" (Rotherhithe).—You can submit as many "Bullets" coupons as you please in any one competition, and you can rely upon receiving as many prizes as they merit.

E. J. McG. (Craven Park, N.W.).—"I dreamt last night that I was a victim of premature senile decay." We don't want to alarm you, but are you sure it was only a dream? When you speak of "improvising a *real* metaphorical metaphysical conductor"—well, need we say more?

N. G. (H.M.S. *Adventure*).—We believe Admiral Sir David Beatty was born near Droitwich. But the most important point is that he was born at the right time.

"ANTI-SWEATER" (Guildford).—You have aroused our curiosity as regards the proceedings of the "Uncrowned King of Guildford." Now it is up to you to satisfy it.

SGT.-MAJ. F. W. J. (B.E.F.).—"Will you kindly let me know your height?" Well, not to put too fine a point upon it, we are not numbered among the sons of Anak.

W. J. F. (Glasgow).—Yes. If the Inventions Board wished to steal the ideas of inventors submitted to them, they have had ample opportunity of doing so. But, like Brutus, they are all honourable men.

T. M. (Bandon).—You make us blush to the roots of our feet.

M. R. (Ripon).—Lord Curzon's view of a politician, "a man who fails to be a statesman," isn't bad. Shakespeare's, however, is better—"one that would circumvent God."

P. J. (Berks).—We believe whisky is an excellent remedy for influenza, only you want to stand in a good light so as not to fill yourself too full.

"TOMMY" (Bow).—A man trading in his own name has no need to register under the Business Names Act.

"FOUR BLUES."—"Is red cabbage green grocery?" It is; and sausages is breaderumbs.

F. A. M. (Manchester).—Under medical orders we are reducing our doses of poetry reading. The last lot we tackled gave us spasms.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

WONDERFUL VALUE IN FOUNTAIN PENS.

THE JOHN BULL PEN.

FOR FULL PARTICULARS SEE COUPON.

"JOHN BULL" Pen Coupon. Value 2d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. for 2s. and 1d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "John Bull" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen, STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "John Bull" from this date may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus, you may send 7 coupons, and P.O. for 2s. only, and 1d. stamps for postage.

DE LUXE MODEL, 1s. Extra.

Address, Pen Dept., JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2 *(Feb. 15th, 1919.)*

P.O.'s should be made payable to John Bull, Ltd., and crossed & Co.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

WE MUST CARRY ON

To gain the Peace, which is not yet secured. A big start in Demobilisation has already been made, and this will continue with all possible speed until the millions who can be spared are back in industry. But from now until Peace is secured we must maintain adequate military strength; in other words we must keep up forces on the Rhine and other fronts, and for the garrisons in India and other vital points in the British Empire, until they can be replaced by troops voluntarily enlisted for our after-war Army. This means keeping up **ARMIES OF OCCUPATION.** There are now

TWO CLASSES OF MEN IN KHAKI

1. The dispersable (or demobilisable) force, amounting to 2,500,000 men, or **three men out of every four** of the strength of our forces on 11th November, 1918, which will be released right away as fast **as ships and trains can carry the men and they can be absorbed in national life.**
2. The Armies of Occupation, which must at present be maintained at a strength of about 900,000, **or one man out of every four** of the strength of our forces on 11th November, 1918, but which will be gradually reduced as it becomes possible.

THE MEN WHO WILL BE KEPT

The Armies of Occupation are in the first instance to be comprised of

Men serving under pre-war conditions of service who have not completed their term of Colour service.

Men who joined the Colours on or after 1st January, 1916.

EXCEPT—

Men who are over 37 years of age.

And men who have more than two wound stripes.

As soon as possible, if the time, age, and wound limits laid down provide more men than are wanted, then the total set aside for the Armies we must maintain will be reduced by releasing in succession men of 36, men of 35, men with two wound stripes, and then the men of 34.

Remember this:

It will be possible to go on reducing the strength of the Armies of Occupation week by week until the day comes when OUR PEACE TERMS HAVING BEEN SECURED, no man will be left with the Colours who is not serving of his own free will.

The new scale of pay in the Army is very good. Men still with the Army can Volunteer for the Armies of Occupation and receive the new extra weekly pay given below, or they can re-enlist for 2, 3, or 4 years, receiving by yearly instalments bounties of £20, £40, and £50 respectively, as well as the new scale of weekly pay given below. The fit man who is not certain of his position in civil life for the next few years should **VOLUNTEER NOW** or **RE-ENLIST** while the present scheme remains open.

THE MEN TO BE DEMOBILISED

Men serving under pre-war conditions of service who have completed their term of Colour service.

Men who joined the Colours before 1st January, 1916.

Men who are over 37 years of age.

Men who have more than two wound stripes.

INDISPENSABLES

The maintenance of the Armies of Occupation and the dispersal of the demobilisable army make it imperative that some men of certain special services on the Lines of Communication and at the Bases and at Home, such as Railway troops, Royal Army Service Corps, and Pay and Record Staffs, &c., &c., must be retained although within the demobilisable class, in order to carry on.

Such men are included in the Armies of Occupation as indispensable, and as such will get the same bonuses. They will not be retained a day longer than necessary, and their dispersal will begin as soon as substitutes can be found or they can be dispensed with. Fair is fair, and the men who joined up first are to be demobilised first. That is simple justice.

The men who are to be demobilised first will be released, as now, in order of their industrial importance. Civil demobilisers and pivotal men duly certified by the Ministry of Labour whose names have been received by the War Office before 1st February, 1919, will still have prior claim. Contract men, slip men, compassionate and One-Man Business cases will all be released in their turn provided they are otherwise demobilisable.

HIGHER PAY FOR THOSE WHO STAY

The officers and men retained in the Armies of Occupation are while serving to receive the following weekly bonuses over and above their present pay:—

	per week. s. d.		per week. s. d.
Boys	5 3	Warrant Officers, Class I.	21 0
Private Soldiers ..	10 6	2nd Lieutenants ..	24 6
Paid Lance-Corporal ..	12 3	Lieutenants	28 0
Corporals	12 3	Captains	31 6
Sergeants	14 0	Majors	35 0
Colour-Sergeants	17 6	Lieut.-Colonels ..	38 6
Company Sergeant-Majors		Higher Ranks	42 0
Company Quartermaster-Sergeants			
Quartermaster-Sergeants			

These bonuses will be granted to men on duty in India and other garrisons overseas who cannot get home until fresh troops are ready to replace them.

Leave will be granted as generously as possible to men in the Armies of Occupation. Those in the Demobilisable Army will not be given leave except in cases of special urgency.

The Armies of Occupation will include those on the Rhine (the young battalions at home will be sent there to see Germany and the battlefields of Flanders), at Home, in the Middle East, the Detachment of the Far North and of Siberia, and the garrisons of the Crown Colonies and of India.

Men under 20 will be confined to service at Home or in the Rhine Army. They will not be sent elsewhere.

FIRST OUT, FIRST HOME

That is the just principle at the foot of the demobilisation plan. The scheme outlined here protects industry and does justice. The members of the Armies that must be maintained as efficient, well-disciplined force to back our demands at the Peace Conference, and to see that we get them, will have their compensation in bonus pay. The war-worn veterans of 1914-15, and the older men, will obtain release as fast as transport facilities can place them in employment.

ANY SOLDIER WHO WISHES FOR FURTHER DETAILS SHOULD APPLY TO HIS COMMANDING OFFICER.

Patience, Co-operation, and an intelligent appreciation of the Nation's needs, will win us the Peace.

"BULLETS" BIG INCREASE £250

1ST PRIZE £250 2ND PRIZE £20 3RD PRIZE £10 1ST PRIZE

10 PRIZES OF £5	10 PRIZES OF £2 10	25 PRIZES OF 10s.	200 PRIZES OF 5s.	1,000 PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.	3,000 "TARGET" PRIZES

Please Note that Next Week "Bullets" First Prize will be increased to £500.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with **ANY** letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. These examples will guide you:—Example:—Drinking Beer. Bullet:—Nor Is Government Ale. Example:—Good Health. Bullet:—Needed In Army. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent. Result of this competition will be found in our issue dated March 8th.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 320

THE NEXT STRIKE	LLOYD GEORGE'S TASK	WHAT BOTTOMLEY ASKS	GERMANY HOPES THAT	WHEN PARLIAMENT STARTS
UPSETTING BUSINESS	HEARD IN THE TRAIN	FAIR PLAY	WAITERS	RED TAPE
OUR BOLSHEVISTS	DRINKING BEER	MAKES TOMMY SMILE	BAD BEGINNING	MOST IRRITATING WHEN
GOOD FOR NOTHING	A ROLLING STONE	WHEN PARTING	A GOOD SPORT	BUYING TROUBLE
DIRTY HANDS	MY BEAUTY	GOING TO SMASH	SETTLING DOWN	A TERRIBLE AWAKENING
SEEING RED	WASTING TIME.	GOOD HEALTH	DAY TALK	SAME AGAIN

No. ____ Closing Date, Thursday, Feb. 20th

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(320) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If a coupon is used P.O. or 6d. must be sent.

Signed _____

Address _____

IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

No. ____ Closing Date, Thursday, Feb. 20th

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(320) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 2 coupons are used P.O. or 1s. must be sent.

Signed _____

Address _____

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No 320. "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

Write competition in top left-hand corner of the envelope

Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 321

WHEN PEACE IS SIGNED—BOTTOMLEY'S ADVICE—MASTER AND MAN—ROAD TO RUIN—WAKING THEM UP—SOLD AGAIN—IMPOSSIBLE—BRITISH MADE—A HOLY TERROR—ON STRIKE—LIKE A MAN—MY BEST PAL—BITTER MEMORIES—BREACH OF PROMISE—WON'T WASH—PROMISING GIRL—TRUTH WILL OUT—A TIGHT SQUEEZE—JOHN BULL—TROUBLE BREWING.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27th.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number **321**, in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets," No. 321, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty examples for competition 320.

BULLETS RULES

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the last being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.
4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.
5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Mr. J. Lauder, 601, Ashton Old Road, Bradford:
Good Business—If Everyone "Paid Enough."

Mr. A. M'Ainsh, 7, Tankerville Road, Streatham Common, S.W.:
Back To Work—Spare Time Occupation Shortly.

List of 10s. Prize-winners in "Bullets" Competition 317 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and other Prize-winners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Result of 317th "Bullets" Competition.

FIRST PRIZE OF £1,000:
Mrs. WRIGLEY,
35, Adelaide Street, Todmorden, Yorks.
Example:—Full Of Promise.
Bullet:—Tommy—And Kept It.

SECOND PRIZE OF £100:
Mr. W. T. DAVIES,
14, Fawdry Street, Wolverhampton.
Example:—Good Business.
Bullet:—"Keep Away" From Germany.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:
Mr. G. R. HARRIOTT,
142, Kintbury Road, Goodmayes, Essex.
Example:—A Dud Lot.
Bullet:—Filled Pockets—Not Trenches.

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

Pte. J. H. Robinson, Hall Weston, St. Neots: The Old Gang—Consider "Verdict" A "Caution."

Mr. C. M. Morrin, Cintra Villa, Dumfries: Without Opposition—Pity Clemenceau Isn't.

Mr. H. Newton, 19, Bold Square, Chester: Good Business—Hun Thinks "Coming Back."

Lieut. W. A. Mein, Military Hospital, Wareham: Peace Terms—Longest In—Largest Bay.

Mr. J. Bertram, 166, King's Road, Cardiff: A Quick Change—If Government Forgoes Indemnity.

Mr. W. Mathias, 20, Hanover Street, Cardiff: In Parliament Now—Bottomley Greatest Labour Member.

Mr. G. Hanney, Manningford Bohune, Pewsey: Without Opposition—Kisses Aren't So Sweet.

Mr. L. Richmond, 44, Grosvenor Gdns., Boscombe: What Britain Wants—Everyone Says "Something Different."

Mr. C. Watkins, 2, Peake Street, Knutton, Staffs: Peace Terms—Send Tommy With Them.

Mr. R. McLeod, 3, St. Clement Street, Aberdeen: Not Wanted Now—"Striking" While Iron's Hot.

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

Miss S. Carter, 73, Hosford Rd., Brixton Hill: Good Business—Not "Going Abroad" Again.

Mr. T. C. Betts, 82, Crowhill Ave., Cleethorpes: Our Office Boy—"Youth" Without "Innocence."
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)

Mr. D. M. Spence, 57, Albert Rd., Colne, Lancs.: Not Wanted Now—Till Another "Day"—Tommy.

Mr. J. M. Tait, Record Office, Cadzow Street, Hamilton: Back To Work—Navy, Unless Heligoland's Annexed.

Mr. S. E. Mason, 6, St. Mary St., Griffithstown, Mon.: Lloyd George Must—Have Discounted Wilson's Chevrons.

Mr. B. W. Gilbert, 120, Gillott Rd., Birmingham: The Old Gang—"Wasters" Of Our Time.

Mr. P. Franks, "Briardene," King Ed. Drive, Harrogate: Leaving The Army—Tommy, "Alive And Kicking."

Mr. E. R. Starling, 42, George Road, W. Bridgford, Notts.: What Britain Wants—Leading, Not Leading Strings.

JOHN BULL'S GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE AND LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex.

The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company, to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin" Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

ORDER FORM

TO BE RETAINED BY NEWSAGENT.

To.....Newsagent.

.....

Please deliver JOHN BULL to me regularly until further notice

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

February 15, 1919.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept., 93 Long Acre, London, W.C.2 where your name and home or nominee will be duly registered.

To remain qualified for the benefit, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

REGISTRATION FORM

Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

.....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee.....

Address.....

Signature of Insured.....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Address of home.....

Feb. 15, 19.....

Enclose 1d. stamp if no acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

WHAT WE WILL PAY

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to ...	£200
In Case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye ...	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not provided for but in addition to the injured person from all wage-earning employment, up to ...	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks	£1 Per Week

A WELCOME ECONOMY.

"Jack Tar" Pilchards are a delicious and economical dish. Yous ould try them. The cost will work out at only a few pence for each erson at table, and you w ll have a better meal than many a res aurant would give you for several shillings.

Ask for the "Jac Tar" brand. That name is your guarantee of the best Pilchards that money can buy.

A PAIR OF KID GLOVE FREE.—Send us the name of a grocer w o does N T stock "Jac: Tar" Pilchards. We will send post free to t e first six age cents whose letters are opened each morning from the 1st Fe. to the 30th April a pair of ladies' kid gloves to the value of 5/6 (state size and colour when writing). Angus Watson & Co., Dept. 18 Newcastle-on-Tyne.

'JACK TAR' PILCHARDS

Sold in small and large round and oval cans.

Guaranteed by Angus Watson & Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PLAYER'S

"COUNTRY LIFE" Cigarettes

(MEDIUM STRENGTH)

Pure Virginia Tobacco

10 for 5d.

50 for 2/0½

These Cigarettes are also supplied at Duty Free Rates for the purpose of gratuitous distribution to wounded Soldiers and Sailors in Hospital.

Terms and particulars on application to— **JOHN PLAYER & SONS, Nottingham**

P737 Branch of the Imperial Tobacco Co. (of Great Britain and Ireland) Ltd

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FREE TO YOU!

Send a postcard to H. SAMUEL NOW and receive his Free Book of Jewellery, Watches, and Plate, illustrating thousands of bargains offered at money-saving next to FACTORY PRICES.

25/-

£5

£8

Write to-day!

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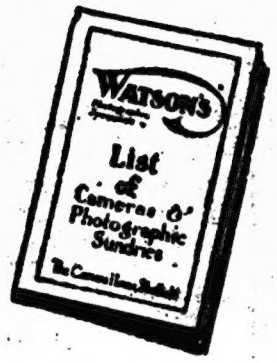

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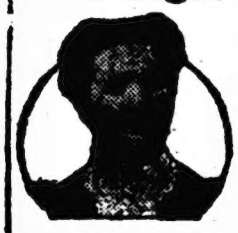

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To-day a hidden plague, scarcely less terrible, which claims its hundreds of thousands of victims every year, is rampant in England. But because people have been ashamed to talk about it, few, outside its victims, know how terrible it is. It is the plague of Venereal Disease—Syphilis, "the bad disorder," and Gonorrhœa, almost as grave. If every house which contained a victim were marked with a cross to warn people against infection, you would be amazed to see how many crosses there would be on the doors of just one street. But since there are no warnings, men and women do not realise the risks they run.

The man who enters the door where some loose woman lives, imagining foolishly that he is going for enjoyment, is often actually going to his doom. It may well be that he contracts a disease which corrupts the whole blood, and, if untreated, will make his life a burden and torment for years. It will be too late then to wish that he had kept his love sacred for some pure girl whom he hopes to marry. Long treatment must take place and weary months elapse before the doctor can give him again a clean bill of health, and a guarantee that his children will not perish one by one in infancy.

There are some girls, too, who think it is up-to-date to have a fling before marriage. They may mean it in all innocence, but it is playing with fire, and a sudden temptation may ruin their hopes of a happy marriage and condemn them to years of infective disease.

Anyone who has been foolish enough to take the risk must at once consult a doctor, in order to avoid the appalling results which would ensue should the first stages of the disease be neglected.

Those who are in any doubt or difficulty should write for information and free literature to N.C.C.V.D., 81, Avenue Chambers, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, marking the envelope "Medical."

This announcement is issued by the National Council for combating Venereal Diseases, a responsible body recognised by the Government. President: Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham. Vice-Presidents: The Bishop of Southwark, Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D., Chairman of Propaganda, Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S.E. General Secretary: Mrs. A. C. Gotto, O.B.E.

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